[President.]

Finance Committee, for the next financial year, on Monday, the 15th August, after the proceedings of the day are over.

The elections will be conducted in the same way as in previous years and they will be presided over by one of the panel of chairmen.

The House will now proceed to the general discussion of the budget.

GENERAL DISCUSSION OF THE BUDGET.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai (*Quilon* cum *Kunnattur*): Sir, I rise to offer a few remarks on the budget presented by the Financial Secretary. It has been pointed times without number that the most significant feature of our finances was that its expenditure was increasing and its revenue is becoming more and more inelastic. I am glad to find that the Government have taken note of that significant fact. There are not many ways of increasing the revenue and there are not many effective means of introducing retrenchment in regard to expenditure. The only course open under these circumstances is either to increase the revenue by way of new taxation or the tapping of new resources and by retrenchment as far as possible. It has been found that it is not possible to introduce any fresh taxation in this country. Because this country mainly depends on agriculture and agriculture has become more and more uneconomic as days go by. Under these circumstances, Sir, the Government deserves warm congratulations and appreciation for tapping resources and inventing methods of augmenting our revenue by finding out sources which were till now unrecognised. I was rather surprised to find and I was delighted to see that even in quarters that were trying to find out a loop hole in the budget as it is presented they were finding it difficult to point out any substantial defect or criticism so far as the budget is concerned. All that could be done by the most malicious was to create vague fears and to give gloomy forecasts. Sir, any budget in the world can be attacked in this way. If you say that the anticipations will not be realised, that the estimates are too optimistic, there will be no surplus but everything will be deficit, that the financial position is weak, that the revenue surpluses have become small; all these are trite criticisms on budgets with which we are all familiar.

But one who looks honestly into the budget will find if one is to view things impartially that this is one of the very best budgets presented to the House in recent times and the new Financial Secretary deserves congratulations for the lucid presentation of it and for its scientific arrangement.

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Sir, with regard to the budget I have been in the habit of urging Government and dinning into their ears that they should not keep a lump sum without being utilised for nation building purposes. There is no use in raising alarm that our cash balance has been reduced. On the other hand, representatives of the people ought to be glad, and I have been advocating this from 1108, that money must be spent more liberally and money must not be hoarded but must be spent for nation building activities for the purpose of benefiting the tax payer. Sir, it would be foolish to think that to spent money on nation building activities is a waste. On the other hand, it is foolish to keep it hoarded to meet unforeseen contingencies. Sir, unforseen contingencies might arise at any time in any country. But the greatest asset of a Government is the prosperity of its people. If the people are prosperous and their economic condition is kept at a higher level there is ample means to meet any contingency. That ought to be the aim of any Government, particularly our Government because we find it is profitable to invest our money on big industrial schemes as we cannot get high rates of interest anywhere else. I find that this budget has been characterised as a conservative budget by the Financial Secretary. But I am not one who considers that it is a conservative budget. It may be conservative in its anticipation of estimates. But the budget has to be characterised as a 'development budget'. What is a 'development budget'? 'Development budget', I know, is an ambitious term. The finances of the State have been clearly set forth in the form of a statement so far as the future spending policy of the Government is concerned. It has been given out frankly in the budget. Sir, that is a great advantage and improvement upon former budgets. Sir, I have seen this Government fighting shy of loans for remunerative purposes. It was a conservative view, I believe, which prevailed before the War that a State going in for loans is not a very desirable step so far as its financial position is concerned. But that theory has been blown up since the War. The War has been an eye opener in many directions. It is found that if the Government can train people in the matter of safe investments, that in itself is a great boon to the people. Sir, we find that the people in our country, rather the rich people not only in our country but elsewhere, are finding it difficult to find safe investments for their money. And we know perhaps only too well about the tragedies of people who go and invest their surplus funds in concerns that are, due to bad managements and worse conduct of its managers, crumbling down with the result that many families are ruined and made to suffer untold miseries. Under these circumstances I want to urge upon the attention of Government the necessity of going in for loans for reproductive works. Sir, we find that capital is very shy in our country.

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[Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

One of the reasons why capital is shy is that we are not accustomed to such investments. If Government would come forward and float loans to train up people in the matter of investments, I think people will not patronise loosing concerns and afterwards get desperate over the ruin of those concerns. If that is done by the Government people will be very much benefited and their money will be utilised for the benefit of the country. Sir, it may be said that the policy of floating loans may have some disadvantages because it will create competition in the private money market. I do not agree with that view. Sir, I am at a loss to find a private concern in which a large amount can safely be invested in our country. Secondly the market for Government loans is not exactly the market for the private concerns. Therefore there will be no serious handicap to safe private concerns that require the patronage and help of the investors and without harming them Government will be able to get loans and that a low rate of interest. And the amount thus obtained may be utilised for nation building activities. Sir, it is found that the Government of Travancore has launched upon very big schemes in recent years. There is no doubt about that. But I want to stress the point that the Government have not quickened their pace with regard to the practical realisation of these many schemes as much as they should. I am at a loss to see the reason why they should not boldly undertake the schemes that they have launched. I am led to think, Sir, that the Government are preoccupied with certain doubts caused by certain vilifications that have been going on on the Governmental policy created by certain people who do not understand the economic wisdom of these policies in and outside the State. I presume, Sir, Government are slackening their pace in regard to the working of the schemes because of these circumstances. I may be wrong in saying that. And I will be only too glad to be assured that I am wrong in this respect. But I am naturally led to infer that there is some little slackening in the matter of pushing through the many schemes that Government launched upon. Sir, what I wish to say definitely is that the Government should not heed this unthinking accusations regarding Governmental schemes. Sir, with regard to one scheme I wish to say a few words.

The transport has been taken up and enlarged by Government to a certain extent. But I think there should be absolutely no delay with regard to the extension of the Government Transport Scheme from Kottarakara to Kottayam, because I find from experience that this is the most inefficiently run line. And there is very great inconvenience experienced by the travelling public which

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they have been suffering for a very long time more than in any other line. In the lines either from Quilon to Trivandrum or from Cape to Trivandrum we cannot see such difficulties as is experienced in the Kottarakara-Kottayam line. I wish also to point out that all the buses in that line are monopolised by a certain clique. I found, Sir, to my astonishment that political considerations have put difficulties in the way of respectable gentlemen in the matter of travel. Sir, I have it as a fact from a very respectable gentleman that because he belonged to a political organisation, because he was working in a political organisation, because he was against another organisation to which the bus owners and the people who control the traffic from Kottarakara to Kottayam belong, that gentleman was refused admission into successive buses and he had to wait from 5 in the evening till 12 at night before he got a bus and reached his destination from Pandalam to Changanacherry. I do not know how this can be dealt with. I am assured that he has complained to the Police Commissioner regarding this matter and also to the Traffic Superintendent. If the Transport is conducted like this, and if travellers ought to confirm to the political views of the bus owners it would be a great hardship to the travelling public. The transport scheme introduced by Government, even if it does not bring out any remuneration to Government, I think if it does allow all persons to travel by bus irrespective of his political predilictions it ought to be, enough reason for emulation. Otherwise it would be curtailing our liberties to a considerable extent. The State should not allow that. I wish to point out that Government should take early steps to extend the transport system and take up the Kottarakara-Kottayam route as well. My fear is, that the private bus owners are not taking adequate steps to improve transport facilities as they ought to. This is a matter which I wish to bring to the earnest attention of Government. Sir, this is one instance in which the Government ought to push on with the scheme.

Then with regard to the Pallivasal Hydro Electic Scheme I wish to say a few words. I must say, Sir, that even though we can give full credit to the statement made by the Electrical Chief Engineer, there is a feeling in the country that the work is not progressing as speedily as they expected. That cannot be denied. It may be due to unforeseen circumstances and unavoidable difficulties. But, Sir, those difficulties which caused the delay, must be made up and the work must be speeded up. Now it gives opportunities for the people who are bent upon crying down every scheme of the Government that this scheme will be a failure. All sorts of lies are being spread. They say, a lot of money has been sunk

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[Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

at Pallivasal and there will be no electricity coming and no benefit done to the people by this scheme. I know, Sir, as a matter of fact during the recent elections one party exploited those transmission lines for condemning Government and asserting that if, their man was elected they would see that these wires are pulled down and that they would criticise the actions of Government in unmitigating terms and thus bring about a millennium. They were lecturing to the people like this: "Your money has been sunk in this venture and this venture is not going to succeed." All these lies were deliberately used by these people.

President: The honourable member has only 3 minutes more.

Sir, therefore, I say we should not leave the schemes in suspense; they ought to be speeded up as early as possible, irrespective of the doubts, misrepresentations and apprehensions.

Sir, with regard to the budget, regarding the expenditure side, I must say that there is necessity to look into the matter carefully and reduce the expenditure as far as possible. Sir, it is all very good that we should go on for big schemes to improve our material condition. We should even utilise all the revenues that we receive for developing the country as a whole, but at the same time, it must be shown that the expenditure side is very carefully scrutinised and all avoidable surplus expenditure is eliminated. It must be shown, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that we are only spending as much as is absolutely necessary to keep up the proper running of the Governmental machinery.

Before I sit down, I wish to make another point clear. It has been found that various economic schemes of undoubted value has had to be slackened and various other measures have to be stopped because of the unrest in the country. Sir, I point out very strongly to the Government that this unrest is mainly due to the communal bickerings among the representatives of the people. Sir, I have always held the view that this communal bickering is the inevitable consequence of the present system of single non-transferable voting which divides one community from another and cuts up the whole country on the basis of community.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: Sir, I raise a point of order whether in discussing the budget, the member is in order in referring to the constitution or the limitations of the Legislative Bodies.

President: Order, order. Ordinarily speaking there can be no discussion. The exact ruling is this: "It shall not be lawful for the Council or the Assembly to consider and enact any

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measure relating to or affecting (a) The Ruling Family" etc., Any matter which is exempted under Section 17 cannot form the subject of a Resolution. So far as the general discussion of the budget is concerned, while no proposal could be made, a general passing reference to the constitution of the country may be made and this has been allowed in the past.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai : Therefore, according to me the reason for this communal rivalry, as is seen now among the representatives of the people, is due entirely to the fact that they owe their allegiance entirely to the individual communities. The voting system was introduced for helping certain minoity communities and to the communities to the whom reservation has been given.

President : The honourable member has one minute more.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai : Even though in one instance one minority representative was able to secure ninety-nine per cent. of the votes, of his community be was defeated; whereas another reservation community chose the candidate for the other in effect. Before the next election commences, I hope the Government will take necessary steps to see that this system of voting is changed because it cuts at the very root of national solidarity. Some people who talk high politics scarcely recognise or refuse to recognise the importance of this problem. Government will consider it very seriously and they will find that the introduction of plural voting system is the only solvent to make the legislature really representative of the people of the country. Under the present system it will create more and more bickerings and divide community from community and create greater hatred among the communities.

Sahib Bahadur M. Sultan Muhiadheen (*Trivandrum and Nedumanyad* cum *Chirayinkil*) :

സർ, ബഡ്ജറ്റ് പൊതുവിമർശനം നടത്തുന്നതിനു മുൻപായി ഒരു സംഗതി സന്തോഷത്തോടുകൂടി ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിചാരിക്കുന്നു. അതായത് ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ സാമ്പത്തികാധഃപതനവും കൃഷിപ്പിഴയും തൻനിമിത്തം ഉണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ള കൃഷിക്കാരുടെ സ്ഥിതിയും കാണുന്നുമേറിയ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് മനസ്സിലാക്കി കരത്തിലൊരംശം ഇളച്ചുകൊടുത്തതിലും കരക്കുടിശ്ശികയെ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള നിർബന്ധനടപടി തൽക്കാലം നിറുത്തിവച്ചതിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോട് എനിക്കുള്ള നന്ദിയെ പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കുക എന്നുള്ളതാണ്.

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[Sahib Bahadur M. Sultan Muhiadheen.]

ഫ ഫ ൪–ാമാണ്ടത്തെ ബഡ്ജറ്റ് മിച്ചം കാണിക്കുന്ന ഒരു ബഡ്ജറായി കാണുന്നതിൽ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറിയെ അനുമോദിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ പ്രധാനസ്ഥാനത്തെ അർഹിക്കുന്ന ഹൈദരാബാദും മൈസൂരും തിരുവിതാംകൂറുമായി താരതമ്യപ്പെടുത്തിനോക്കിയാൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ വരുമാനം ഒട്ടും കുറവല്ല എന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഇവിടെ പ്രത്യേകം പ്രസ്താവയോഗ്യമാണ്. ചിലവു കുറയ്ക്കാതെയും കൂടുതൽ നികുതിഭാരം ചുമത്താതെയും എന്നാൽ പ്രധാനമായി വരാനുള്ള വരവുമാർഗ്ഗങ്ങളെ കണ്ടുപിടിച്ചും ഇപ്രകാരം തൃപ്തികരമായും സുദൃഢമായും ഉള്ള ഒരു ബഡ്ജറു് അവതരിപ്പിച്ചതിൽ ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി പ്രത്യേകം അനുമോദനാർഹൻതന്നെ.

അടുത്തതായി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു് ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു ഇടയ്ക്കു നടപ്പാക്കിയിട്ടുള്ളതും ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ഗുണപ്രദമായിട്ടുള്ളതുമായ ചിലപദ്ധതികളെപ്പറ്റിയാണ്. ആദ്യമായി ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ടു പദ്ധതിതന്നെ എടുക്കാം. ഗതാഗതം ചെയ്യുന്ന അനേകലക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളുടെ സൗകര്യത്തിനും ഗവണ്മെൻറിൻെറ ആദായത്തിനും ട്രാൻസ്പോർട്ടു പദ്ധതി വളരെ ഉതകുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഇവിടെ സ്മരണീയമാണ്. ഈ പദ്ധതിയെ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ മുഴുവനും വേഗത്തിൽ വ്യാപിപ്പിക്കുമെന്നു് ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. നാഗരുകോവിൽ ലൈനിൽ ബസ്സുകളുടെ കുറവു നിമിത്തം ഓവർലോഡ് കണ്ടമാനം കയറുന്നുണ്ടു്. ഇതു് ജനങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ അസൗകര്യത്തെ ഉണ്ടാക്കുന്ന ഒരു ഏർപ്പാടാണ്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് ആ ലൈനിൽ കൂടുതൽ ബസ്സുകൾ കൊടുത്തു ഗതാഗതസൗകര്യം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

അടുത്തതായി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു് തിരുവിതാംകൂർ യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റിയെപ്പറ്റിയാണ്. വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിൽ മുന്നോക്കം നിൽക്കുന്ന നമുക്കു വളരെ മുൻപുതന്നെ ഒരു യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റി അത്യാവശ്യമായിരിക്കുകയാണ്. ഇപ്പോഴെങ്കിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറു ദയവായി ആലോചിച്ചു് ഒരു യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റി സ്ഥാപിച്ചതിൽ വളരെ സന്തോഷത്തിനവകയുണ്ടു്. നാട്ടുരാജ്യങ്ങളിൽ പ്രഥമസ്ഥാനത്തെ അർഹിക്കുന്ന പല രാജ്യങ്ങളിലേയും യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റികളെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു് നമ്മുടെ യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റി ജനങ്ങൾക്കു പ്രയോജനകരമായി ഭവിക്കുമെന്നുള്ളതിനു യാതൊരു സംശയവുമില്ല. അതായതു തൊഴിലില്ലായ്മകൊണ്ടും മറ്റും വളരെ കഷ്ടത അനുഭവിക്കുന്നവരും മേലാൽ അനുഭവിക്കാനിടവരുന്നവരു

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മായ ആളുകൾക്ക് ഈ യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റി എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു ഉപകാരം നൽകുമെന്നുള്ളതിനു സംശയമില്ല.

പൊതുമരാമത്തുവകുപ്പിനെപ്പറ്റി പറയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ തെക്കൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലേക്ക് വളരെ കുറഞ്ഞ ഒരു തുകയേ ബഡ്ജറ്റിൽ ചേർത്തിട്ടുള്ളൂ. ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയർ വലിയ മാസപ്പടി പറ്റുന്ന ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥനാണെങ്കിലും സർക്കീട്ടുവിഷയത്തിൽ വളരെ വിരക്തികാണിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. ഓരോ സ്ഥലങ്ങളും സന്ദർശിച്ച് പൊതുജനങ്ങളുടെ അഭിലാഷങ്ങളെ മനസ്സിലാക്കി അവശ്യം വേണ്ടതു ചെയ്തുകൊടുക്കുകയെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഈ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയറിൽ കാണുന്നില്ല. കുഴിത്തുറ—തേങ്ങാപ്പട്ടണം റോഡിനെറ, ശോച്യാവസ്ഥയെപ്പറ്റി ജനപ്രതിനിധികൾ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയരോട് പരാതി പറഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ അദ്ദേഹം ആ റോഡിൽ ടോൾ ഗേറ്റ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്താൻ സമ്മതിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം ആ റോഡ് ശരിപ്പെടുത്തിത്തരാമെന്ന് മറുപടിപറയുകയുണ്ടായി. എന്നാൽ ടോൾ ഗേറ്റ് ഏർപ്പെടുത്തി രണ്ടുമൂന്നു കൊല്ലം കഴിഞ്ഞിട്ടും ആ റോഡിനെറ ശോച്യാവസ്ഥമാറ്റാൻ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയർക്കു സൻമനസ്സുണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല. വമ്പിച്ച ശമ്പളം പറ്റിക്കൊണ്ടിരിക്കുന്ന ഈ ചീഫ് എൻജിനീയർ ഇരിക്കുന്നിടത്തോളം കാലം അദ്ദേഹത്തെ ശരിയായി ജോലിചെയ്യാൻ നിർദ്ദേശിക്കയോ അല്ലാത്തപക്ഷം അദ്ദേഹത്തിനെറ സ്വദേശത്തേയ്ക്കു അദ്ദേഹത്തെ പറഞ്ഞയയ്ക്കയോ ചെയ്യുന്നതു നന്നായിരിക്കും. (മി. ജോസഫ് കുഞ്ഞു, ഹിയർ, ഹിയർ)

പോലീസു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിലെ കീഴുദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാർ ചെയ്യുന്ന ചില അഴിമതികളെപ്പറ്റിയാണു ഇനി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. ഇവർ ചില അനാശാസ്യമായ നടപടികൾ നടത്തുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതു് എല്ലാവർക്കും അറിവുള്ള ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു്. ഊർജസ്വലനും സത്യസന്ധനും സമർത്ഥനുമായ പുതിയ പോലീസ് കമ്മീഷണരുടെ ആവിർഭാവത്തോടുകൂടി അദ്ദേഹം ഈ മാതിരിയുള്ള അനാശാസ്യനടപടികൾ മൂലം ഉണ്ടാകാതെ വേണ്ട ജാഗ്രത ചെയ്യുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു. പോലീസു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ അനാശാസ്യ നടപടികൾ നടത്തുന്നതു് കുറഞ്ഞ ശമ്പളക്കാരാണെന്നും അതിനു കാരണം അവരുടെ കുറഞ്ഞ ശമ്പളമാണെന്നും ചിലർ പറയുമായിരിക്കാം. അതൊരുവിധത്തിൽ പരമാർത്ഥവുമാണു. അവരുടെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കുറഞ്ഞ ശമ്പളം ഫലപ്രദമായുമാണു്. അതു മാറ്റി അവരുടെ കുറഞ്ഞ ശമ്പളം ഫലപ്രദ

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[Sahib Bahadur M. Sultan Muhiadheen.]

യാക്കുന്നവിഷയത്തിൽ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ കമ്മീഷണർ വേണ്ട ശ്രദ്ധ പതിക്കുമെന്നു ഞാൻ വിശ്വസിക്കുന്നു.

മി. ചെന്താമരയാ സാഹിബിനെ അഞ്ചൽ സൂപ്രണ്ടായി നിയമിച്ചതിനു മുമ്പും പിന്നീടു ഇതുവരെയും ഞങ്ങളുടെ സമുദായത്തിൽനിന്നും ആരേയും ഒരു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറധ്യക്ഷനായി നിയമിച്ചിട്ടില്ല. ഇതു ക്ഷമിച്ചിട്ടു ഏകദേശം പത്തുപതിനഞ്ചു കൊല്ലം ആയിരിക്കുന്നു. മുസ്ലീം സമുദായത്തിൽനിന്നും ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറധ്യക്ഷനായിരിക്കാൻ യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവർ സർവീസിൽ തന്നെ ധാരാളമുണ്ടു്. അവരിൽനിന്നും യോഗ്യതയുള്ളവരെ തിരഞ്ഞെടുത്തു ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറധ്യക്ഷന്മാരായി നിയമിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു പ്രത്യേകം അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

സെക്രട്ടറിയേറ്റു, ജുഡിഷ്യൽ, എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ, മെഡിക്കൽ എന്നീ വകുപ്പുകളിൽ മുസ്ലീങ്ങളുടെ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം വളരെ കുറവാണെന്നു പറയാതിരിക്കാൻ നിവൃത്തിയില്ല. ഈ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറുകളിലെല്ലാം തന്നെ ഏതു തരത്തിലുള്ള ജോലികളും വഹിക്കാൻ പ്രാപ്തിയുള്ളവർ മുസ്ലീം സമുദായത്തിൽ ധാരാളമുണ്ടെന്നുള്ള സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു മറച്ചുവയ്ക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുമെന്നു തോന്നുന്നില്ല. അതിനാൽ ജുഡിഷ്യൽ, സെക്രട്ടറിയേറ്റു, മെഡിക്കൽ ഈ വകുപ്പുകളിൽ ഇപ്പോഴും സർവീസിലിരിക്കുന്നവരിൽനിന്നും വെളിയിൽനിന്നും യോഗ്യതയുള്ള മുസ്ലീങ്ങളെ നിയമിച്ചു കാണ്മാൻ ഞാൻ ആഗ്രഹിക്കുന്നു.

അടുത്തതായി എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണു് എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു്. പൊതുവെ സ്ത്രീവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെയും പ്രത്യേകിച്ചു മുസ്ലീം സ്ത്രീവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെയും പ്രോൽസാഹിപ്പിക്കുന്ന വിഷയത്തിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു വേണ്ടതു പ്രവർത്തിച്ചുവരുന്നു എന്നുള്ളതു് എല്ലാവർക്കും അറിയാവുന്ന ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു്. മുസ്ലീം സ്ത്രീവിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ചു ഒരു സംഗതി ഗവണ്മെൻറു ചെയ്യുന്നതിനെപ്പറ്റി എനിക്കു പേക്ഷയുണ്ടു്. മുസ്ലീം സമുദായത്തിൽനിന്നും ബി. എ. എൽ. ടി. പാസ്സായ ഒരു വനിത ഇപ്പോൾ എഡ്യൂക്കേഷൻ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽ കുറഞ്ഞ ഗ്രേഡിൽ ഉദ്യോഗത്തിലിരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. മുസ്ലീം സ്ത്രീകളുടെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസപ്രോൽസാഹനാർത്ഥമെങ്കിലും ഈ വനിതയുടെ ശമ്പളം വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചു ഉയർന്ന ഒരു ഉദ്യോഗത്തിൽ നിയമിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ ഗവർമെൻറിനോടു അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

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മുസ്ലീം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച ഗവണ്മെൻറു പല സൌജന്യങ്ങളും ചെയ്യുതരുന്നുണ്ടെന്നുള്ളതു ഞങ്ങൾ നന്ദിയോടുകൂടി അനുസ്മരിക്കുന്നുണ്ടു്. അറബി പഠനത്തിനായി വേണ്ട സൌകര്യം ഗവർമെൻറു ചെയ്തു തരികയും അതിപ്പോൾ പുരോഗതിയെ പ്രാപിച്ചുവരികയും ചെയ്യുന്നുണ്ടു്. എന്നാൽ ഇപ്പോൾ തുടങ്ങിയിട്ടുള്ള യൂനിവേഴ്സിറ്റിയിൽ അറബി പഠനത്തെ സംബന്ധിച്ച യാതൊരു ഏർപ്പാടും ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ചെയ്യാതിരിക്കുന്നതു് വളരെ കഷ്ടമാണു്. അതുകൊണ്ടു് അധികാരികൾ ഈ വിഷയത്തിലും വേണ്ട ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിച്ചു ഉടനടി എന്തെങ്കിലും ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഞാൻ അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നു.

അവസാനമായി എനിക്കു പറയുവാനുള്ളതു് ബഡ്ജറ്റു് അവതരിപ്പിച്ച അവസരത്തിൽ ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറു ചെയ്ത പ്രസ്താവനയെക്കുറിച്ചാണു്. ജനങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറുമായി സഹകരിക്കുന്ന പക്ഷം ജനങ്ങളെ ഉപദ്രവിക്കാതെ രാജ്യത്തു കൂടുതൽ വരവുണ്ടാക്കാമെന്നും, ആ വരവു രാജ്യോന്നമനത്തിനുവേണ്ടി ചിലവുചെയ്യാമെന്നും തന്നിമിത്തം ജനങ്ങളുടെ ഐശ്വര്യം വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കാമെന്നും ദിവാൻ പ്രസിഡൻറവർകൾ പ്രസ്താവിക്കയുണ്ടായി. അതു പരമാർത്ഥമായ ഒരു സംഗതിയാണു്. നമുക്കു തമ്മിൽ എന്തെല്ലാം തെറ്റിദ്ധാരണയോ അഭിപ്രായവ്യത്യാസമോ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നാലും അവയെ ഇല്ലാതാക്കി രാജ്യോന്നമനാർത്ഥം പൊതുജന പ്രതിനിധികളായ നാം എല്ലാവരും ഒന്നുചേർന്നു ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടുകൂടി സഹകരിക്കേണ്ടതാണു്.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: Sir, I rise to speak on the budget, not to criticise it nor to congratulate its author. My purpose is to make certain observations which I hope will be useful in the preparations of the budget and to our people.

What I feel about the budget is that, in framing it, due consideration has not been given to certain aspects which should have been attended to. I shall make myself clear. The Dewan-President, in his statement to the Joint Session of the Legislature, very aptly remarked that he would give due consideration to the problem of the ryots of the country. That very appealing statement has since been supplemented by the declaration of remission of taxes in certain places and reduction in other places. But when I scan the pages of the budget, I find there is very little in it indicating the partial fulfilment at least of the desire of the Dewan-President. Let me quote a few instances.

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[Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla.]

Sir, about 40 per cent. of our total income is spent on the salaries of our officers. Out of the 60 per cent. left for the people as a whole, drainage, town-planning *etc.*, consume about Rs. 25 lakhs. Out of this Rs. 25 lakhs only Rs. 7, 000 has been set apart for a rural area, namely, Shertala. Rs. 7,000 out of Rs. 25 lakhs, for the development of rural areas ;

In regard to ryots' roads about which there has all along been persistent cry from the different parts of the country, only Rs. 17,000 has been set apart for new works during 1114 ; and out of this Rs. 17,000, Rs. 7,000 has been allotted for metalling the roads, so that only Rs. 10,000 will really be available for the development of ryots' roads. Sir, I need not add instances further. It is clear that only a very little amount of our large income is being devoted for the development of rural areas. Out of about Rs. 259 lakhs which is proposed to be spent during 1114, suffice it to say that we propose to spend only Rs. 10,000 for rural development, Rs. 3,000 for the Development Board, Rs. 30,000 for backward communities, in all about Rs. 40,000 for the real good of the masses. Sir, that is a very sad reflection on the preparation of the budget, however excellent it may be in other respects.

I shall now pass on to a few important suggestions which I want to make to the Government. Sir, it has been suggested all over the country that the Conciliation Boards should be so modified that the debts of a person would have some reference to the price of produce in the country and to the amount of interest he has already paid. Certainly, the Credit Bank should be so worked that the Bank would take over the liabilities of the debtors and accept the repayment of the debts to the Bank in easy instalments. That is my first suggestion to the Government.

The next suggestion that I would like to make is about what I would call Pakuthi reorganisation. It is a well known fact, Sir, that the various officers, especially of the nation-building departments, do not co-operate with each other nor co-ordinate their work ; this is particularly so in the case of the subordinate officers among whom there is a certain amount of rivalry between one department and another. I should think that many of our problems can really be solved if we can bring about an understanding between the officers of various departments. There should be an organisation in which the P. W. D. Supervisor, the Proverthicar, the Inspectors of Co-operative Societies and of Agriculture, and the representatives of the people will be members. Such an organisation will certainly be a great boon to the country.

I would recommend such an organisation for another reason as well. At present Government have necessarily to depend upon the reports of certain subordinate officers, like the pakuthi officers or

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the C. I. D. Much of the trouble in the country is due to the false reports submitted by these subordinate officers who have neither the education nor the character to represent facts as they are; and this is true whatever be the community of the officer. If, as I am now suggesting, we have these village organisations, Government can have reliable reports to proceed upon. No report, no information should go to the Government except through these pakuthi organisations. So long as we depend upon people whose consciences are so dark that they cannot distinguish between right from wrong, there can be no peace and satisfaction in the country. That is the reason why I say that we should create responsible pakuthi organisations.

There are also two other reasons in support of this suggestion. Just as plants turn towards light, roads have a tendency to turn towards influential quarters instead of to places where they are really needed. I myself have made representations to authorities about two or three roads. I am not referring to Mr. Truscott, and my remarks are not directed against him like those of some of my friends here. Sir, I have made representations for a few roads which would have cost just three or five thousand rupees on the whole, roads which would have greatly helped the ryots in the country. I am sorry to find that the budget does not provide for any of these roads.

Lastly and finally, I may mention that these pakuthi organisations should ultimately so develop that they will have their influence felt in the central Government. The real trouble in our country now is that the people have no real organisation to make their will felt in the central administration. I do not see why some people are so much against responsible Government. To my mind, the primary basis of responsible Government is that the people of the country must have an organisation by which they can impress their will definitely and clearly on the central Government. People must have the satisfaction that they have the right of direct approach—not through C. I. D. or the Police—straight to the authorities where they can make their will felt. I do not think there is any one in this country who will say that it is either disloyal or subversive to have an organisation by which the people can express, strongly and effectively, their will to the central Government; any Government which understands popular will will surely respond to it. Therefore, Sir, I hope that, before the end of 1114, the question of these Pakuthi organisations will receive special consideration at the hands of Government. The Chairman of this Council is also the Dewan of the State. I hope he would immediately turn his

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[Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla.]

attention to this very important suggestion that I have made. As I have indicated, my chief criticism is that the people have no real organisation to express their will.

I have one more point, and that is about the nationalisation of industry in this country. Sir, I have always been an advocate of nationalisation of certain industries. I have no opposition against that idea as such. But our difficulty here is that one thing follows another in such rapid succession that the ordinary man gets bewildered. Pallivasal, Rubber, Sugar, Ceramics, Transport, have all come in such quick succession that our people are not able to grasp fully the value of these schemes or to realise their consequences. If people are not given sufficient time, sufficient interval, to consider what is behind all these and what the economic consequences of these will be, certainly we cannot expect them to appreciate such schemes. What I therefore plead is that we must go rather slow. There may be exceptional people who have brilliant intelligence and intuition to look into even big problems very quickly but we must think of the common man. After all, Sir, as Abraham Lincoln has stated, God loves the common man, and hence he has created so many of them. Therefore, instead of going on so rapidly, Government must adjust itself to the Psychology of the ordinary man so that even he can understand it and respond to it. The chief defect in this quick succession of big schemes is that money is being diverted from important schemes that contributes to the welfare of the people and is spent on less important things. In this connection I would request the permission of the Chair to read an extract from a Review of Provincial Budgets in British India, a Review with which I entirely agree.—

> "The main attempt seems to be one of careful manipulation of the normal revenue and expenditure so as to transfer larger sums to the ameliorative departments. This is made possible by mild retrenchment over a large field reduction of salaries and allowances, reduction or amalgamation of departments. More value is obtained by a new order of preference of items, so that the villages obtain more than larger towns, direct work more than buildings, small beneficial schemes more than ambitious gigantic schemes. Money is thus widely distributed rather than tied up in large commitments for long periods."

Sir, I wish I had the privilege to make the same comment on the budget that is presented before as but I am sorry that I cannot do so.

Mr. Eric Hall (*Travancore Planters*): Sir, the previous speaker referred to the budgets of the Provincial Governments and his remarks brought to my mind the Budget of a neighbouring country where the population is approximately the same as in Tra-

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vancore. There, the budget estimate is for Rs. 1214 lakhs for a population of about 50 lakhs. When going into the details of that budget we will find that for a population of 5 millions, the estimate for the budget for Education is Rs. 142 lakhs against Rs. 44½ lakhs in this country. Knowing those countries as I do, I can only say that if they are getting value for the money that they spend on education then we get more for the money that we spend on education. However, it goes to show that the best is being made of the money which we spend in Travancore. If there are not those sources of income which the other country has, at least we are doing the best with what we get.

It is very pleasing to see that we are not allowing our money to remain idle as some people would advise. If money is made to work, money will make money. There is no commonsense in keeping money hidden away when there are opportunities to make it useful.

I would touch on the agricultural aspect of the budget. It is true, Sir, that in your speech you said that agriculture was degenerating. Travancore is no exception to the rule and throughout the world where intensive agriculture is carried on, the land is slowly but surely going waste. I know that in America an area of 10,000 square miles, of what was very fertile soil, has now become a sandy desert without absolutely any vegetation on account of this intensive cultivation and soil erosion. That is a picture which we in Travancore should not forget. From our experience here, we see that the lands are becoming more and more infertile now, we will find that in course of time they will be of little use. That is the result of intensive cultivation, taking crops and leaving nothing behind in the land. What was in the jungle? There were wild animals, and there was no taking stuff out of it. The land was fertile and yielded good crops. But you cannot expect the land to yield for all time.

As regards Japan, what has happened there? I am now coming to industries, the necessity for exploring every avenue of industry in this country, because the result of intensive agriculture is degeneration of the land and the people of this land will have to depend ultimately on industries. The poorest agricultural country in the world to-day I think, is Japan. I recently read about agricultural Japan and I can only say that the yield per acre in Japan is not nearly so great as the average yield of Travancore, and 60 per cent. of the population there are dependent on agriculture. The result was that the Government of Japan about forty years ago said—Industrialise Japan and industrialise the people. What did

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[Mr. Eric Hall.]

they do? They sent their students to England; they sent their students to Germany; they sent their students to every part of the world where there was industrial progress. What was the result? The pupils have become master of their own teachers and to-day as a result of searching round and leaving no avenue unexplored to make Japan an industrial country, they have exceeded the exports of every other country with one exception. That shows you that in Travancore with agricultural degeneration we must explore every direction, rubber manufacture, sugar manufacture, ceramic manufacture, or monazite etc. We must at least search round as Japan did and give such industries a trial. No new industry can prove itself a success within a few months. Sometimes an industry may require years before it can be a success. It requires the co-operation of everybody and in course of time you will find that these industries as they have been in other countries will prove a success. What we do not consume ourselves we would sell out of Travancore and we get new money into Travancore and that in my humble opinion is what we ought to do. We want to get money into Travancore. It will provide appointment to those who have no work and that in few words, means prosperity. Therefore we must see to it that we search for other industries if we have the money now.

Touching on agriculture, I recently had a pleasant experience when at Quilon, I saw a number of officers conducting scientific agricultural experiments. It was of the greatest interest to me. That, I consider, is one of the sources of life in Travancore. Agricultural scientific research must be augmented and we must find out how we can get the best out of the Travancore soil and its fertility. If we cannot augment, we must at least maintain the fertility. I would like to see more money spent on agricultural research which will benefit every one of the agriculturists.

With regard to transport, the new prospective transport from the north Travancore to Alwaye and thence to Cochin, I should think, is a very fine thing indeed. Under Government control and security I have not the slightest doubt that there will be more demand for Government transport. There is nothing more gratifying than to know that you have security in the transport of your goods. From my experience in transport of goods, I can say that goods have not always reached their destination. I may assure the House that when there is Government control over the transport and liability to see that the goods reach the other end the planters will be benefited and the purchasers may also get the goods quicker.

Touching on P.W.D it just struck me while I was coming this side that some years ago we mentioned the good parts of the roads

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but now we refer to the bad parts. The extent of new roads which have been made and maintained is considerable and the condition of these roads I should think is very satisfactory.

President: The honourable member has two minutes more.

Mr. Eric Hall : There is nothing more, Sir, that I wish to say except that the budget is an exemplary one.

Mr. James Fletcher: With very great pleasure I congratulate the Government on the Surplus Budget. The Budget shows that the expenditure on nation-building departments has not been curtailed but there is an all round increase to the extent of Rs. 10½ lakhs. Under the item of Education alone there is budget provision for an increased expenditure of about Rs. 3½ lakhs. On account of the economic depression prevailing all over India and especially in Travancore, one naturally expected that the State income would not permit even the usual expenditure. But the great statesman who is at the helm of the affairs of this country has succeeded in raising necessary funds from fresh fields and pastures new.

The revenue budgeted for the ensuing year is Rs. 261·41 lakhs. But this revenue has not been obtained by increasing taxes on the people ; but by other means the necessary funds have been found, for example, by nationalising the transport, by successful negotiation with the Government of India in the matter of Cochin Harbour, by taking effective measures to check the smuggling of tobacco through the frontiers, by making Chitra coins an unlimited tender, and by working the Ceramic Factory. By such means the State has succeeded in raising the necessary funds for meeting the increase in expenditure.

Mr. Nedumangd R. Kesavan Nair : May I know, how far the State has succeeded in raising money from the Ceramic Factory ?

Mr. James Fletcher: By the end of 1114, I can assure my friend that the Ceramic Factory would yield about a lakh of rupees.

It is to be noted with pleasure that the financial position of the State is as sound as it ought to be. In the speech explaining the budget, the Dewan President informed us of the progress made by the State on the industrial side. He told us also of the policy of the Government towards industrialising this State. We are thankful to the Government for their wise policy of implementing the agricultural resources of the country with those from industrial enterprises.

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[Mr. James Fletcher.]

I shall now consider another aspect of the needs of Travancore. If one has regard to the fact that more than 70 per cent. of the population of the State depend on agriculture for their sustenance and well-being, one can easily envisage the need for a well-equipped Department of Agriculture, with the primary object of improving the system of agriculture. Over and above the cultivation of food grains, Travancore needs the development of commercial farming. The cultivation of tobacco, Ground-nuts, Soya beans, etc., can be tried on a large scale in suitable places in the State. It should be the duty of the Agricultural Department to see that the agriculturists take up the best method of farming at an early date. But more than the commercial farming, I would like to stress the need for increasing effectively the production of paddy. It has to be admitted that Travancore may not be in a position to supply all the rice necessary for consumption in the State. But, however, it is a poor consolation to see that Travancore should be purchasing paddy worth about two to three crores of rupees every year for consumption in the State. It should be the aim of Government to reduce this large drain of money from the State by increasing the yield of paddy in Travancore itself. And, with the educated public, with the educated ryots, I think that Travancore can easily manage to increase the yield of paddy by scientific cultivations. For succesfully carrying out the above object, we want a well organised Agricultural Department with an educational institution fully equipped with a research institute second to none in importance and district model farms, where local problems can be tackled, by trained men who will constitute an effective link between the peasant and the department. This should be the object of our Agricultural Department. Sir, in this connection I want the University of Travancore to supply the necessary qualified men for this work and our new University can easily produce such men who will have the local knowledge and scientific education for bringing about a revelution in the matter of production of paddy in the State.

I may also point out that one of the causes for the poor yieldof paddy is due to the poverty of the agriculturists. The agriculturist is not in a position to improve his cultivation or increase his output in his profession, though it is well known that Government is trying their best to relieve the agricultural indebtedness in various ways. One of the methods that has been adopted was by passing an Agricultural Debt Relief Regulation and having a certain number of Government officers in various places as Conciliation Officers, to help the agriculturists in the matter of settling their debts. I may submit that Conciliation Boards have been doing their best to relieve the indebted agriculturists. But the provisions of the Agriculturists Relief Regulations are not comprehensive enough to touch

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even the fringe of the problem of rural indebtedness. A special legislation is urgently needed to inplement that Regulation with provisions similar to those contained in the Madras Agricultural Debt Relief Act.

Another urgent need to help the Agriculturist is by way of improving his irrigation facilities. The budget of course provides some allotments for improving irrigation. But, to my mind, that provision is not sufficient. The agriculturist at present is entirely at the mercy of the irregular rainfall. When there is no rain, he loses all the efforts he had put in cultivating his paddy field. Therefore it is necessary that irrigation facilities are so made that the agriculturist can impound all the rain water in irrigation tanks and take from them the necessary water according to his needs. All over Travancore and especially in the South the irrigation tanks are without water during most part of the year. The tanks get silted up. I submit that, as early as possible, arrangements should be made to keep the tanks fit to hold necessary water to feed the fields that are situated nearby.

Another important matter I would submit is about the question of taxation. In South Travancore especially, the Government are aware that on paddy fields as well as on lands, tax is heavy and I understand that Government have sympathetically considered that aspect of the matter. But no permanent arrangements have yet been made to bring about relief to those people. Therefore I suggest that the Government would immediately call a committee with members from both the Houses and with the present Land Revenue Commissioner as Chairman so that, a scheme may be drawn up during the ensuing year and permanent relief effected by removing the existing heavy taxation to the people of those districts.

Another point I wish to submit is with reference to the malarial condition in Neyyattinkara Vilavancode and Kalkulam taluks. There are a large number of pakuthies in those taluks where malaria is prevailing. It is true Government have spent some mony towards giving relief for the people who are malaria stricken. It is also true that Medical Officers have been sent over to that area to give medical aid. Unfortunately the patients have been getting only English medicines with the result that those who have just recovered from it are unfit for any sort of physical exertion. Therefore I request Government that they may be pleased to send some of the Siddah Vaidyans who are prepared to go to the spot and live among the malaria stricken people and give them all the help they can. I also request Government to place generous sums of money for helping the malaria stricken people.

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*Mr. K. R. Elankath: Sir I wish to offer a few remarks on the budget. The Government should be congratulated on the fact of their being able to present us a budget showing the largest amount of revenue from this state. When criticizing the Budget, one should be necessarily and justifiably permitted, to view it from an ordinary layman's point of view than from the point of view of a technical expert. The increase which we find in the total receipts of the State is, I should think, phenomenal. As such, one naturally looks to the ways and means by which that excess amount anticipated could be spent. Viewed in that light, I cannot fully agree with the members who have decided to shower congratulations on the Financial Secretary. I cannot but observe that the ryot's point of view has almost been totally ignored. In this connection I should be failing in my duty, if I do not express gratitude for what the Government have done by way of a small remission of tax.

The House rose for lunch at 1 p. m. and reassembled at 2 p. m. with the President in the Chair.

Sir, I was referring to the Dewan's announcement made recently permitting remission in some cases wholesale, in some cases 50 per cent and the rest 12 per cent. Whatever be the good intentions of Government in making this announcement to the best interests of the agriculturists, I would bring to the notice of this House and the Government that if this announcement had been made a couple of months before, early in Edavom, it would have had the maximum benefit because as the year is closing, all the revenue is realised from the ryots by all coercieve means available. But as it is, the benefit comes too late. Even there, an exception is made in the case of some persons. It is not to affect rich landlords or people who can afford to pay. But I would ask ,whether if rich people can afford to pay out of income other than from their property they are to suffer on that account.

Mr. K. George: The exception is contemplated only as far as tea, rubber and cardamom planters are concerned.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: Even in that case I would suggest that, if for unavoidable reasons, fluctuations in prices, owing to reasons beyond the control of the planters, is it not legitimate that they also should be brought within the provisions of the announcement? The principle of remission is that whenever the land does not, owing to reasons beyond the control of the ryots, yield the produce, the ryot is entitled to remission. I cannot see any reason why the Government should not extend the benefit of the concession even to big landlords. I was speaking about the difficulties of

*Speech not corrected by the member.

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the ryots who on account of their honest intentions had to pay their tax. Government can even now, although too late, announce that what amount they have given as tax for this year may be considered as payment due for the next instalment. In that case Government will not have to refund the amount. Because the honest peasant who by pledging his ornaments or by his difficult situations was forced to pay by means of coercive processes, why not he be also given the benefit of this concession?

Coming to the excess in revenue which I referred to, this year's receipts have exceeded by more than Rs. 10 lakhs from that of the previous years and ordinarily one expects that at least a good percentage of this amount will be utilised for the best advantage of the rypts whose suffering is hardest in thise days of drought. He cannot now produce what these lads would have fetched some four or five years back. It is no use crying every year that the wishes of the peasants are not heeded to. Government, I understand, are appointing investigation officers in certain areas to find out means by which their conditions could be improved. These investigating officers do not come to any conclusion even after working for years and one of the reasons is that even for investigation adequate provision is not made in the budget. I find that what the P. W. Department, spending nearly Rs. 40 lakhs, has provided for the investigation officer is Rs. 600 for investigating work in South Travancore, how the irrigation facilities may be improved and all that. You can find how inadequate it is when you come to the actual working such as the restoration of tanks and rebuilding of tanks. What I find is that for the whole of the Nagercoil Division what is provided is a trifling sum of Rs 17,000 for maintaining, restoring and the upkeep of the irrigation facilities in that area comprising Nanjinad and Edanad. I would suggest that a five year plan or a three year plan or, if the Government find it difficult, even ten or fifteen year's plan, by which the problem of irrigation may be tackled, may be adopted and the restoration works of tanks taken up as a whole. When coming to the restoration of tanks the Chief Engineer and the Department think that restoration means removal of the surface silt. When the Chief Engineer came for inspecting a very important tank in Eraniel I was also there and was discussing about the result of the investigation that was made. What he told me was that the depeening would mean a large amount than the Government cannot spend. It would be better if five or six tanks are well maintained rather than fifty or sixty tanks kept in a haphazard manner. There is no good in keeping such tanks and saying that Government have restored such and such number of tanks. So I would suggest to the Chief Engineer and the Government to see that what they do may be well done and to the

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Mr. R. Elenkath.]

best advantage of the ryots for whose benefit it is done. Then there are tanks for which provision is made in one year's budget and when the work is half done it is left there. For the restoration of a particular tank in Suth Travancore a sum of Rs. 3,000 was made in the last year's budget. But no provision is made for it this year. The tank that was half constructed last year is to be in that conditon till additional sum is provided for some five or six years hence. The money invested and the interest on that amount is a waste. I do not wish to speak about it in detail when discussing on the budget in general but I shall refer to it when the discussion of the particular demand comes.

Coming to the larger question like the transport and commercial enterprises, I would point out to the Government that although the results, have proved themselves to be a commercial gain I would suggest some improvements to be made with regard to the same, the details of which I shall refer to on another occasion. In calculating the profits on the commercial transport I doubt whether the Government are calculating the income which they were receiving by way of tolls, license fees and the income by way of petrol duty. I will avail this occasion to appeal to Government that this opportunity may be taken to see that all tolls are abolished. Especially in South Travancore where the state transport has been introduced, the major portion of the toll, nearly 75 per cent was being paid by big bus owners, like the Pioneer and the syndicate Companies. When the 75 per cent of the tolls are allowed to be made by book adjustment, why should the poor ryots and the car owner be taxed for the 25 per cent? When nearly a lakh and odd rupees was the income collected by way of tolls, after the transport system has come into being only 30 or 40 thousand rupees are being collected by way of tolls.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: May I ask the member whether he is aware that the transport buses have also to pay tolls?

Mr. K. R. Elankath: That is only a book adjustment. That amount is calculated as an additional income under tolls and at the same time it is subtracted from the transport Department. The practice now is that the transport buses are given a pass and at the end of the year they make adjustments. My point is that only a small portion of the tax is paid by private motor owners and the major portion is paid by the transport services. As such the tolls can well be abolished. If that is to be done Government is not going to incur materially much loss. Now what is the position of the ryots? When the price of produce is diminishing day by day he has to pay tax in more ways than one. The tax payer has not only to pay the land tax but he has to incur cutltivation expenses, market tolls when he goes to sell his produce in the market and

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tolls to the P. W. D. when he has to cross the tollgates. All these are heavy burdens. Therefore I would appeal to the Government to see that the tolls are abolished.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know how by taking away the tax from the motor owners the ryot is benefited?

Mr. K. R. Elankath: They are benefited in a way. The major portion of the people who are given the benifit are middle class people. In the case of motor owners they may be made to pay registration fees. Why should a toll-gate be maintained for the purpose of taxing these iron-wheeled carts, when the policy of the Government is to see that as far as possible the land tax is not increased, or if possible abolished? In that case and at a time when new sources of income are forthcoming, is it not proper that we pray for the abolition of such additional tax direct or indirect which ultimately goes to the ryots. Government should consider this question very seriously.

President: The honorable member has three minutes more.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: Sir, a word about commercial enterprises. My friend Mr. Kuruvilla was suggesting that the Government were thrusting one industrial enterprise after another on the people without getting adequate results or experience from any one of them. Sir, I do not find my way to agree with him. If Government see that such and such enterprises will be certainly advantageous to the State and will ensure additional income to Government, why should not they take up such enterprises and work them up? The only question to be considered is whether the State can afford to spend money for all these enterprises. I do not say, Sir, that there is anything to hinder such schemes of Government. But there is a legitimate fear prevailing among a section of the public even though it was caused by malicious intentions. Sir, we had to write off $2\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees in 1112 for the State Aided Bank and in 1113 $1\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs in connection with the Thuckalali sugars. It is these things that make people apprehensive as to the ultimate success of these schemes. If the Government think that such institutions could not be improved they must close them down. Sir, I ask in all earnestness whether it would not have been better if efforts were put forth to re-organise the State Aided Bank and not to establish the Credit Bank. If that were done the necessity to write off big amounts would not have arisen.

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President: The honorable member must know that the State Aided Bank is not a Government concern.

Mr. K R. Elankath: Sir, according to my opinion neither the Credit Bank is a Government concern. It is a concern of the public shareholders. Therefore my suggestion is if that could have been done, Government could have saved the Bank and had the credit of having rescued the Bank which has the support and patronage of Government. But in unavoidable circumstances the other course might have been chosen. The Government established the Credit Bank not after serious consideration and after convincing themselves of the facts, and the contingency of re.establishing that bank.

President: The honorable member may conclude his remarks. He has got one minute more.

Mr. K. R. Elankath: Sir, with these remarks I resume my seat.

Mr. S. Kamesam, Director of Development, took his oath and signed the Rolls.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Sir, in spite of the very solemn assurance that has been given by one honorable member that the current year's budget is a „Development Budget" and in spite of a note of warning given to the honorable members of the House that they should not criticise the increased expenditures of Government, I feel it my duty to say that the budget of the coming year has not been very satisfactory. Nor do I find my way to congratulate the Financial Secretary on the clarity of his speech or on the re-arrangement of the various items of the budget. The figures that have been supplied to us by the Financial Secretary divulge certain facts which obviously he has lost sight of. A perusal of the budget for the year 1112 would show that we anticipated an increase by way of land revenue to the extent of Rs. 2·46 lakhs. Not only were we able to collect that amount but we were also able to collect an excess amount of 2·06 lakhs. Thereby our increased collection of land revenue amounted to 4·52 lakhs in 1112. Sir, this bespeaks not the capacity of the people to pay tax but the enormous extent of coercive steps taken against the people by the department. The Land Revenue Commissioner has freely conceded in his Administration Report for 1112 that coercive steps by auction sales are on the increase and as a result of that 85 per cent. of the land revenue has been collected. Sir, we also find that side by side with this, that in 1112 there has been an increase in collections under the item of land revenue Rs. 40 lakhs and of expenses under interest to the extent of 1·26 lakhs. We are not in a position to see on what deposits these interests accrue and what is being done with the deposits. So much for 1112.

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Coming to the figures for 1113 we find that there is an increase of expenditure to the extent of Rs. 3·18 lakhs over and above the anticipated expenditure, whereas there is no corresponding increase in the income. The result is that the revenue balance expected in 1113 was reduced to the nominal sum of a lakh. I would invite the attention of the Financial Secretary to the two statements made by his predecessors in 1111 and 1112 to see how far he has conformed to that. A reference to paragraph 44 of the speech of 1112 and paragraph 61 of the speech of 1113 would show that the need of curtailing expense is imperative. An increase of expenditure to the extent of 3·18 lakhs in 1113 is seen with no corresponding increase in income. Let us see how far this increase in expenditure is justifiable ? Under the item of interest again in 1113, there is an increase of Rs. 73,000. One outstanding fact of the budget for 1113 is that under the miscellaneous and political item there appears to be an enormous increase of expenditure to the extent of 1·41 lakhs over and above the anticipated expenditure of Rs. 2,04,303. The explanation given by the Financial Secretary is not satisfactory.

President : The honorable member is not entitled to speak on that subject under Section 28 (4) of the Regulation. The Section is as follows :

> "The proposals of our Government for the appropriation of revenue or monies relating to the following heads of expenditure shall not be submitted to the vote of the Assembly or the Council, nor, unless our Dewan otherwise directs, shall they be open to discussion by either Chamber at the time when the budget is under consideration."

Here the relevant heads of expenditure is under (g)—"Maramat and Political."

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Sir, am I entitled to speak on the miscellaneous ?

President : Certainly.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Sir, I find that a provision of Rs. 3,45,200 has been made in the budget of 1113 for Miscellaneous and Political but the amount has been increased to an alarming extent so far as the provision for 1114 is concerned. A huge sum of Rs. 4,77,455 is provided for this purpose.

President : I suppose the honourable member is aware that there is the Pallikettu ceremony to be celebrated.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Yes, Sir, I am aware of the marriage and also of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit,

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[Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair.]

but there are often items that require explanation. Sir, the Financial Secretary has not given adequate explanations for the the items of expenditure which have been provided in the budget.

Sir, I now leave the expenditure and income of 1113 and come to 1114. During 1114 the Financial Secretary makes provision for an expenditure of Rs. 259·9 lakhs, the highest on record. In justification of that he anticipates an income of Rs. 261·41 lakhs. That also is the highest on record. I think, Sir, that there is no use in criticising the Financial Secretary for the additional expenditure. It is up to the Financial Secretary to anticipate anything he likes so far as the incomes are concerned. It is up to us to see whether the Financial Secretary's anticipations are justified. Let us see how he anticipates to get Rs. 261 lakhs as income. His anticipations for 1114 are based on the following items: Income Tax, Excise, Customs, activities of the Development Director, Transport and Ceramic Factory.

Now let us take up one by one all these revenue yielding departments. So far as the Income Tax is concerned we find, as a result of the Income Tax Expert's activities and of the Special Deputy Commissioner, they have been able to collect an amount of Rs 8 lakhs, That is, 2 lakhs over and above what was obtained in the previous year.

Under the Excise item the Financial Secretary anticipates an increase of expenditure of Rs. 1·76 lakhs. The explanation of the Financial Secretary is that for the purpose of effective control of smuggling a special staff was appointed. Sir, this staff was in existence even in 1113. Nevertheless in 1114 the income is expected to be 2½ lakhs less. I am at a loss to understand what additional reason the Financial Secretary has to show that he could get Rs. 1·76 lakhs under Excise.

Under Customs the Financial Secretary anticipates an increased income of Rs 5·59 lakhs. There also our past experience shows that he is not justified in this expectation. In 1113 under customs from the Cochin Harbour we expected Rs. 12,40,000 but we were able to get only Rs. 3·14 lakhs less, *i. e.* Rs. 9·26 lakhs.

Our experience from the Cochin Harbour also turns out to be disappointing, so that there is no justification for the Financial Secretary anticipating an increased income under Customs, Excise and Income Tax. There are three items about which we cannot say anything from the figures which are available. Nor are there data for the same. I was just asking my friend Mr. James Fletcher whether we are able to collect anything as a result of the working of the Ceramic Factory. Mr. Kamesam's venture in the

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Ascue treatment remains to be seen. These are items about the income of which we cannot be too sure. Then again under the Commercial Transport: here we are anticipating an increased income to the extent of Rs 2·10 lakhs. The income anticipated from these, namely, the activities of the Director of Development, the Commercial Transport and the Ceramic Factory remains to be seen. These are items on which you could not depend. Regarding the items for which an anticipation..... ....

Mr. S. Kamesam: Sir, I rise to a point of order. As regards the increased income with regard to the Development Department, the increase that the budget refers to has already been explained.

President: Order, order. It is not a point of order.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Now; a word about the Government balances, since I have to resist the temptation even though some members were telling me that I should not say anything about it. The Government balance in 1104 was Rs 170·13 lakhs. The House will be aware that in 1112 the decrease in Government balance has been phenomenal. It has been alarming in 1112. It has amounted to 73 lakhs. Again, in 1113 it has dwindled down to Rs. 45 lakhs. In 1114, according to the Financial Secretary's statement, the Government balance is going to be Rs 16 lakhs. I distinctly remember the Financial Secretary's speech in 1111. There it is stated that the minimum balance that is required for the Government is Rs. 46·8 lakhs.

Mr. K. George: Is that Government balance or cash balance?

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: It might be Government balance or other balances added together. I do not want to discuss it further because there is no time.

President: The Honourable Member has two minutes more.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: The Financial Secretary's statement of 1113 shows that the Government balance required is Rs 49 lakhs. Now what has the Financial Secretary to say about the balance of 16 lakhs. The Financial Secretary might say that we would be drawing from our surplus investments an amount of Rs. 25·44 lakhs. Our liquid assets are practically on the decline whereas our liabilities are great and frightening. I ask what is the surplus investment that is left to our disposal? It has dwindled to Rs. 150 lakhs. Sir, now consider our liabilities which are to the extent of Rs. 321·72 lakhs..... .....

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Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju. *(Nominated)* : സർ, വള രെ തുച്ഛമായ ഒരു തുകയാണ്—ഒരു ലക്ഷത്തിൽപരം രൂപയാണ് — ഫിനാൻഷ്യൽ സെക്രട്ടറി ഫ്രാങ്ക്ഫർട്ടിൽ മിച്ചമായി പ്രതീക്ഷിക്കുന്നതു്. ഒരു മിച്ച ബഡ്ജറ്റ് എപ്പോഴും സ്തുത്യർഹമാണെന്നോ ഒരു നഷ്ട ബഡ്ജ റ്റ് എപ്പോഴും ആക്ഷേപാർഹമാണെന്നോ ഉള്ള അഭിപ്രായക്കാരനല്ല ഞാൻ. എന്നാൽ ഒരു വ്യാഴവട്ടക്കാലത്തിനു മുൻപു 5 കോടിയിൽ പരം രൂപാ കെട്ടിയിരിപ്പുണ്ടായിരുന്നതു് ഇപ്പോൾ 1½ ലക്ഷമായി കുറഞ്ഞു എന്നുള്ള വസ്തുത പരിതാപകരം തന്നെയാണ്. ഒരു ലുബ്ധനായ ധനാഢ്യന്റെ മട്ടിൽ ആവശ്യത്തിനുപോലും ചെലവുചെയ്യാതെ കിട്ടുന്ന തെല്ലാം കരുതൽ ധനമായി ഭ്രതം കാക്കുന്ന നിധിപോലെ വച്ചുകൊണ്ടി രിക്കണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. എന്നാൽ അപ്രതീക്ഷിതമായി, ആകസ്മികമായി, അവിചാരിതമായി, ഉണ്ടാകുന്ന അവശ്യം ആവശ്യ മായ ചെലവുകൾക്കുവേണ്ടി ഒരു കരുതൽ ധനം ഗവണ്മെൻറ് എപ്പോഴും വച്ചുകൊണ്ടിരിക്കേണ്ടതാവശ്യം തന്നെയാണ്. പൊതുജനോപകാരപ്ര ദങ്ങളും രാജ്യാഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുപയുക്തങ്ങളും, പ്രത്യുൽപ്പാദനകരങ്ങളുമായ സംഗതികൾക്കു അധികം ധനം വ്യയം ചെയ്യുന്നതു് കൊണ്ടാണ് ഈ കെട്ടിയിരിപ്പിൽ കുറവു വന്നതെന്നുള്ള വസ്തുത ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ വിസ്മരി ക്കുന്നില്ല. ഇങ്ങനെ ചെയ്യുന്നതിന്റെ സൽഫലം അനതിവിദൂരഭാ വിയിൽ തന്നെ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ജനതതിക്കനുഭവിക്കാനിടയാകുമെന്നും തൻമൂലം ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വരവു് ഭദ്രീഭവിക്കുമെന്നും രാജ്യ ത്തിന്റെ പൊതുവെയുള്ള സാമ്പത്തികനില ഉന്നമിക്കുമെന്നുമുള്ളതു് നി സ്തർക്കമാണ്. സാധുക്കളായ കർഷകവൃന്ദത്തിന്റെ രക്തം ഊറ്റി എ ടുക്കാതെ—കൂടുതൽ നികുതിഭാരം ചുമത്താതെ—ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വരവു വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള മാർഗ്ഗം സ്തുത്യർഹം തന്നെ ,സംശയമില്ല.

ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ വ്യവസായീകരിക്കത്തക്കവണ്ണം പല വിധത്തിലുള്ള സംരംഭങ്ങൾ ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഒരുമിച്ചു് ഏറ്റെടുക്കുന്നതിൽ എന്റെ മാന്യ സ്നേഹിതൻ മി. കുരുവിള ആക്ഷേപം പ്രകടിപ്പിക്കയുണ്ടായി. ഒരു പുരുഷായുസ്സിൽ ഒരു പ്രസ്ഥാനം മാത്രമേ ഏറ്റെടുക്കാൻപാടുള്ളൂ എ ന്നു് ഏറ്റവും വിനീതനായി ഞാൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തിനോടു ചോദിച്ചുകൊ ള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla. I never said that.

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : എന്റെ അഭിപ്രായം പൊ തുജനോപകാരപ്രദങ്ങളും രാജ്യാഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുപയുക്തങ്ങളുമായ പ്രസ്ഥാന

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ങ്ങാം, എത്രത്തോളം കൂടുതൽ ഗവൺമെന്റിന് ഏറെറടുക്കാൻ കഴിയുമോ അത്രത്തോളം ഗവണ്മെന്റ് ഉടനടി ഏറെറടുക്കണമെന്നാണ്.

പള്ളിവാസൽ ഹൈഡ്രോ ഇലക്ട്രിക്പദ്ധതി അടുത്ത വർഷാരംഭത്തോടുകൂടി പൂർത്തിയാകുമെന്നറിയുന്നതു സന്തോഷകരം തന്നെയാണ്. ദോഷൈകദൃക്കുകൾ, കേവലം വിപ്ലവകാരികൾ, അക്ഷോപകർത്താക്കൾ എന്നിവരുടെ നിശിതവും നിസ്സീമവും നിർദാക്ഷിണ്യവുമായ വിമർശനങ്ങൾക്കു വിഷയീഭവിച്ച ടാൻസ്പോർട്ട് പദ്ധതി പ്രതീക്ഷയെപ്പോലും അതിലംഘിച്ച് ലാഭകരവും വിജയകരവുമായി പരിണമിച്ചിട്ടുള്ളതു് ചാരിതാർത്ഥ്യജനകം തന്നെ. എന്റെ ബഹുമാന്യസ്നേഹിതൻ നെടുമങ്ങാട്ടു മി. ആർ കേശവൻനായർ എന്തുതന്നെ പറഞ്ഞാലും മി. കാമേശത്തിന്റെ പ്രവർത്തനം രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ സാമ്പത്തികമായ നില ഉന്നമിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വരവു വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും പര്യാപ്തമാണെന്നു കാണുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അഭിനന്ദിക്കുകമാത്രമേ ചെയ്യുന്നുള്ളൂ. നമ്മുടെ ഇപ്പോഴത്തെ വ്യവസായങ്ങളെ പ്രോത്സാഹിപ്പിക്കയും പരിപുഷ്ടിപ്പെടുത്തുകയും ചെയ്യുക, പുതിയ വ്യവസായങ്ങൾ നടപ്പിൽ വരുത്തുക, വാണിജ്യഉടമ്പടി, പെരിയാറണ സംബന്ധിച്ചുള്ള ഉടമ്പടി ഇവ പുതുക്കുക, ഇവിടെ പുകയിലകൃഷി നടപ്പാക്കുക മുതലായ സംഗതികളിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ സത്പരശ്രദ്ധ പതിയുന്നുവെങ്കിൽ അതു നമ്മുടെ സാമ്പത്തികനിലയെ ഉന്നമിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വരവു വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും പ്രയോജകീഭവിക്കുന്നതാണ്.

സർ, പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ഉപദ്രവകരമല്ലാത്ത വിധത്തിൽ വരവു വർദ്ധിപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനും രാജ്യാഭിവൃദ്ധിക്കുപയുക്തങ്ങളായ സംഗതികൾക്കു ലോഭംകൂടാതെ ധനവ്യയം ചെയ്യുന്നതിനുമാണു് ഒരു ഗവണ്മെന്റു് എപ്പോഴും ശ്രദ്ധ പതിക്കേണ്ടതു്. ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ വരവു സ്ഥിരമെന്നും അസ്ഥിരമെന്നും രണ്ടിനങ്ങളായി തരം തിരിച്ച് സ്ഥിരവരവുകൾകൊണ്ടു് എപ്പോഴും സ്ഥിരചെലവുകൾ വഹിക്കയാണു വേണ്ടതു്. നിർഭാഗ്യവശാൽ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിലെ സ്ഥിതി ഇതല്ല ഇവിടത്തെ ശമ്പളച്ചെലവു് ഇവിടത്തെ വരവിന്റെ അർദ്ധാംശത്തോളം വരുന്നുണ്ടു്. അതു് സ്ഥിരച്ചെലവുമാണ്. ഇവിടത്തെ സ്ഥിരവരവു ശമ്പളച്ചെലവിന്റെ അർദ്ധാംശത്തോളമേയുള്ളൂ. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ പബ്ലിക്സർവീസിലുള്ള ഉയർന്ന ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ എണ്ണവും, ശമ്പളവും തൃപ്തികരമായനിലയിൽ കുറവുചെയ്തു വ്യയനിയന്ത്രണം ചെയ്യണമെന്നു് ജനങ്ങൾ ദീർഘകാലമായി

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[Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju.]

മുറവിളി കൂട്ടിക്കൊണ്ടിരുന്നിട്ടും ഗവണ്മെൻറു അതിനെപ്പറ്റി അശേഷം ഗൗനിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നുമാത്രമല്ല ഉയർന്ന ഗ്രേഡിലുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ എണ്ണവും ശമ്പളവും ഗവണ്മെറു പ്രതിദിനമെന്നോണം വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണിരിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇങ്ങനെ ഈ ശമ്പളക്രമം വർദ്ധിപ്പിച്ചതു കൊണ്ടും തൃപ്തിയാകാഞ്ഞിട്ടോ എന്നു തോന്നുമാറു് ഇവരിൽ ചിലർക്കു ഒരു വക "പേഴ്സനൽ പേ" കൂടി കൊടുത്തുവരുന്നു. ഈ പേയെല്ലാം കൂടിയാണു് ഈ രാജ്യത്തെ നശിപ്പിക്കുന്നതു്. ഇതാണു് തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ അസംതൃപ്തതയുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതെന്നു ധൈര്യസമേതം ഞാൻ അറിയിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഇവിടത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ എണ്ണവും ശമ്പളവും കാര്യക്ഷമതയ്ക്കു ഹാനികരമല്ലാത്തവിധത്തിൽ തൃപ്തികരമായവിധത്തിൽ കുറവു ചെയ്യുന്നകാലത്തല്ലാതെ തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ സമാധാനമുണ്ടാവുകയില്ല. ഇതാണു് അങ്ങു് പ്രധാനമായി ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു്. ഇല്ലെങ്കിൽ അങ്ങേക്കു് ഇവിടെ സൈ്വരമായി കഴിച്ചുകൂട്ടാൻ സാധിക്കുകയില്ല എന്നു ഞാൻ ദീർഘദർശനം ചെയ്തുകൊള്ളുന്നു. ഇവിടത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളുടെ ആകർഷണീയതകൊണ്ടാണു ഇവിടത്തെ ജനങ്ങളെല്ലാം ഉദ്യോഗം തെണ്ടികളായി ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടെ വാതിൽ കാക്കുന്നതു്. കൃഷിവാണിജ്യവ്യവസായാദികളിൽ പ്രവേശിച്ചു് രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ സാമ്പത്തികനിലയെ പരിപുഷ്ടമാക്കേണ്ട ഇവിടത്തെ യുവജനങ്ങളും ഉദ്യോഗം തെണ്ടികളായി നടക്കുന്നതു് ഇവിടത്തെ പബ്ലിക്സർവീസിന്റെ ആകർഷണീയതകൊണ്ടാണു്. കൃഷിവ്യവസായവാണിജ്യാദികളേക്കാളും ഗവണ്മെൻറു സർവീസ് ക്രമത്തിൽ ആദായകരവും സുഖകരവുമായതുകൊണ്ടു് ഓരോരുത്തരും അവരവർക്കു പബ്ലിക്കു സർവീസിൽ കയറിപ്പറ്റുന്നതിനുള്ള കാരോവാദമുഖങ്ങളുമായി ഇറങ്ങിപുറപ്പെടുന്നു. പബ്ലിക് സർവീസിൽ പ്രാതിനിധ്യം ക്രമത്തിലുള്ളവർ കാര്യക്ഷമതാവാദവും, ഉദ്യോഗം കിട്ടാത്തവർ ജനസംഖ്യാനുപാതികപ്രാതിനിധ്യവാദവും പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കുന്നു. ഈ രണ്ടുവാദമുഖങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടും രക്ഷനേടുന്നതിനു നിവൃത്തിയില്ലാത്തവർ ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രാദേശികപ്രാതിനിധ്യവാദംകൂടി പുറപ്പെടുവിച്ചുവരുന്നുണ്ടു്. സർ, ഗവണ്മെൻറു സർവീസിൽ കയറുവാൻ വണ്ടി മാത്രമാണു അവരുടെ സമുദായത്തിന്റെ നാമം അവർ പറയുന്നതു്. അല്ലാതെ അവർക്കു സമുദായത്തെപ്പറ്റിയാതൊരു ചിന്തയുമില്ല. സമുദായപ്രാതിനിധ്യം അനുവദിപ്പിച്ചുതരാം എന്നും, കണ്ണില്ലാത്തതെല്ലാം പൊന്നാക്കിത്തരാമെന്നും പറഞ്ഞു് സ്വസമുദായഗങ്ങളുടെ വോട്ടു തെണ്ടി കമ്മ്യൂണൽ ടിക്കറ്റിന്മേൽ ഇവിടെ വന്നവർ ഇപ്പോൾ ഇതാ ദേശീയവാദികളായി തൊപ്പിക്കാരായിപരിണമിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു.

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Mr. R. V. Thomas: Sir, I raise a point of order. Is the word "തെണ്ടി" a parliamentary usage?

President: What is the expression?

Mr. R. V. Thomas: "തെണ്ടി"

Mr. Puthupalli S. Krishna pillai: It is "വോട്ടുതെണ്ടി", that is, begging for votes.

President: It is quite parliamentary.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: Sir, the implication in Malayalam is very bad.

President: The honourable member will remember that he ought to speak in such a manner that he will not offend the susceptibility of other honourable members.

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: സർ, ഇവിടത്തെ പബ്ലിക്ക് സർവീസിന്റെ ആകർഷണീയത കുറച്ചാൽ മാത്രമെ രാജ്യത്തു സ്വസ്ഥതയുണ്ടാവുകയുള്ളൂ. ഏതെങ്കിലും ഒരു ദിവാൻജി ഇവിടെ വരികയാണെങ്കിൽ ഉടനെതന്നെ ഉദ്യോഗാർത്ഥികളെല്ലാംകൂടി മംഗളപത്രങ്ങളും സ്വാഗതപ്രസംഗങ്ങളുമായി അദ്ദേഹത്തിന്റെ പുറകെ ഓടി കൂടും. ഈ അനുഭവം ഇന്നത്തെ ദിവാൻജിക്കുണ്ടായിട്ടുള്ളതാണ്. കുറെ കഴിയുമ്പോൾ — ഉദ്യോഗം കിട്ടുന്നില്ലെന്നു കാണുമ്പോൾ — ഇവർ അസംതൃപ്തരായിത്തീരുന്നു. ഇവിടത്തെ ഉദ്യോഗങ്ങളുടെ സംഖ്യ പരിമിതവും ഉദ്യോഗാർത്ഥികളുടെ സംഖ്യ അപരിമിതവും ആകയാൽ എല്ലാവരേയും തൃപ്തരാക്കുവാൻ ഒരു ദിവാൻജിക്കും സാധിക്കുന്നതല്ല. അപ്പോൾ അസംതൃപ്ത കക്ഷികളെല്ലാം ചേർന്നു രാജ്യത്തു് അസ്വസ്ഥതയുണ്ടാക്കാൻ ഇറങ്ങി പുറപ്പെടും. എന്തെങ്കിലും ആദർശങ്ങളെ മുൻനിറുത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു് — ഉത്തരവാദിത്വഭരണമെന്നോ, ക്ഷേത്രപ്രവേശനമെന്നോ ഉള്ള എന്തെങ്കിലും ആദർശങ്ങളെ മുൻനിറുത്തിക്കൊണ്ടു് - രാജ്യത്തു അസ്വസ്ഥതയുണ്ടാക്കുന്നതിനായി അവർ ഇറങ്ങിപ്പുറപ്പെടും. അവർക്കു രാജ്യം നന്നാകണമെന്നില്ല; സമുദായം നന്നാകണമെന്നില്ല; അവർ മാത്രം നന്നാകണമെന്നേയുള്ളൂ. ഇവിടെ ഒരു ആഭ്യന്തരകലഹം — ഒരു സിവിൽ വാർതന്നെ — ഉണ്ടാകുമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു് ഈയിടെ ചിലർ ഭീഷണിപ്പെടുത്തുന്നു. "ആഭ്യന്തരകലഹം" എന്നുവച്ചാൽ എന്താണെന്നു അവർ മനസ്സിലാക്കിയിട്ടുണ്ടോ എന്നു എനിക്കു സംശയമാണു്. എനിക്കു ഈ ആളുകളുടെ ശക്തി അറിയാം; അവരുടെ യോഗ്യത അറിയാം; നിലയറിയാം; വിലയറിയാം; സ്വാധീനശക്തിയറിയാം. ഞാൻ തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറിനോടു പരമാർത്ഥമായി അഭ്യർത്ഥിപ്പെടുന്നതു ആഭ്യന്തരകലഹമുണ്ടാക്കാൻ അവർ തയ്യാറാണെങ്കിൽ അവരെ അതിലേക്കു ഇറക്കിവിടണമെന്നാണു്.

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Mr. R. V. Thomas : Sir, I wish to know from the honourable member, who wants to launch out a civil war ?

President : Probably the honourable member is referring to a statement made elsewhere to the effect that it is high time to make a civil war.

Mr. K. M. Korah : Was not that statement withdrawn?

President : No, it was not. I took very great care to see that. That honourable member wanted to cut short the statement. But, from the shorthand notes it is observed that he had not withdrawn it.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : തിരുവിതാംകൂറിൽ ഒരു സിവിൽ വാറുണ്ടാകുമെന്ന് ഇയ്യിടെ ഒരു മിസ്റ്റർ രാമചന്ദ്രൻ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതായി മെമ്പറിന് അറിയാമൊ?

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail (*Nominated*) : Was any action taken against him ?

President : Under the privileges of the House, honourable member is entitled to make statements ; he has made the statement and there it is.

Mr. R. V. Thomas : May I know whether that statement was not corrected by the member who made it ?

President : No, it is still there, in the proceedings.

Mr. M. Govindan (*Nominated*) : May I know whether it is permissible to criticise statements made in the other House ?

President : Statements made anywhere may be referred to.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair Was not Mr. Joseph Kunju criticising that statement ?

President : Proceedings in other Houses cannot be criticised ; but if any member has said something seditious elsewhere, certainly it can be referred to as a statement made by a responsible public man.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai : May I ask whether Mr. G. Ramachandran, in a recent meeting held at Trivandrum, under the auspices of the Kerala Young Men's League, did not refer to what he called 'coming civil war' ?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : എന്റെ മാന്യസ്നേഹിതനായ മി: കോട്ടൂർ കുഞ്ഞുകൃഷ്ണപിള്ള ഇപ്പോൾ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതിനെപ്പറ്റിയാണു ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞതു്. അല്ലാതെ അന്യത്ര നടന്ന പ്രസ്താവനയെക്കുറിച്ചില്ലാ ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിച്ചതു.

സർ, അക്രമപരമായി എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു പ്രവൃത്തി ചെയ്തശേഷം അല്ലെങ്കിൽ വിപ്ലവപരമായ എന്തെങ്കിലും ഒരു പ്രസ്താവനചെയ്തശേഷം അതിനെപ്പറ്റി പിന്നീടു വല്ലതുമൊക്കെ എഴുതിയെന്നു....

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Mr. N. V. Chacko: May I point out that Mr. G. Ramachandran has published an explanation that he could not have and did not make use of the expression 'civil war' in the sense in which it seems to be understood by some people in the country ?

President: All that can be said is that the attention of the Government has not been formally drawn to any such statement or explanation, so that if honourable members say that any such statement was made or that any explanation has been furnished, they do it on their own responsibility.

Does Mr. Kunju hold himself responsible for the statement that he makes?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: Yes, Sir.

President: The question that was put to the honourable member was whether he was aware that Mr. G. Ramachandran denied having made that statement.

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: I do not know, Sir.

President: If honourable members refer to speeches made by others, they have to take the responsibility of having satisfied themselves that such speeches were actually made. Bearing that in view, the honourable member may proceed.

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: Yes, Sir, I take up the responsibility.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: Is it not proper that the Government should take necessary action in such matters?

President: The question of taking action against such speakers will be considered at the proper time and place; Government must get the authentic version of the speech to see what exactly is the statement that was made. I shall read from the actual shorthand report of that speech.

> 'I visualise that if Government do not retrace their steps we will let loose a non violent civil war in Travancore within the course of two months."

It has been pointed out that this statement has been withdrawn. The whole matter will have to be enquired into before deciding what action, if any, should be taken.

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: സർ, ഏറ്റവും കാര്യമായി ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു ആഭ്യന്തരകലഹം ഉണ്ടാക്കുമെന്നു പറയുന്നവരെ അതിനനുവദിക്കണമെന്നാണു്. അവർ അതോടുകൂടി നശിച്ചുകൊള്ളും; അതിന്റെ ഫലം അവർ അറിയുകയും ചെയ്യും. കുറെ വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളെയും മേൽവിലാസംപോലുമില്ലാത്ത ചില ചട്ടമ്പിമാരെയും ചീപ്പുപാപ്പുലാറിട്ടിക്കുവാണ്ടി നടക്കുന്ന മറ്റു ചിലരെയും കൂട്ടുപിടിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു് ഏതൊരു പ്രസ്ഥാനത്തെയും നയിക്കുന്നതിനു് അക്കും സാധിക്കുന്നതാണു്.

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[Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju]

സർ, ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു ക്ഷമിക്കണം; ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ഇന്നത്തെ അവണക്കെണ്ണനയമാണിതിനുകാരണം. ഗവണ്മെൻറു ശക്തിയുള്ള ഒരു നയമെടുക്കേണ്ട കാലം അതിക്രമിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നു. ഒരു പ്രസ്ഥാനം ശരിയാണോ തെറ്റാണോ എന്നന്വേഷിച്ചറിഞ്ഞു് ശരിയാണെങ്കിൽ അതിനെ പ്രോൽസാഹിപ്പിക്കയും, തെറ്റാണെങ്കിൽ അതിനെ അടിച്ചമർത്തുകയും ചെയ്യേണ്ടതു് ഒരു ഗവണ്മെൻറിന്റെ ചുമതലയാണു്. തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ഒരു പ്രസ്ഥാനം തെറ്റാണെന്നു പ്രഖ്യാപനംചെയ്യുകയും അപ്പോൾതന്നെ ആ പ്രസ്ഥാനകർത്താക്കളെ കൈമാടിവിളിക്കുകയും, ചിലപ്പോൾ അവരുമായി രാജിയാലോചനകൾ നടകത്തുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നതു് ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള പ്രസ്ഥാനങ്ങൾ വളർത്തുന്നതിനും അതിന്റെ കർത്താക്കൾക്കും അനുയായികൾക്കും പ്രോൽസാഹനം നൽകുന്നതിനും അതിന്റെ ശത്രുക്കൾക്കു നിരാശനൽകുന്നതിനും മാത്രമേ പ്രയോജകീഭവിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ.

Mr. M. Govindan : May I know whether the characterisation of Government policy as 'castor oil policy' is parliamentary ? (*Laughter*)

President : As a matter of fact, although it was not exactly a question of castor oil, a very well known speech of Mr. Gladstone, describing Mr. Disraeli as an 'oily politician' was debated upon and was declared to be parliamentary. (*Laughter*)

Mr. R V. Thomas : Does the honourable member suggest that the present Government in Travancore is weak :

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : സർ, തിരുവിതാംകൂർ ഗവണ്മെൻറു ബലഹീനമാണെന്നു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നില്ല. ശക്തിയുള്ള ഗവണ്മെൻറുതന്നെയാണു്. പക്ഷേ ഒരുകുറെ ക്രൂരപ്പോയി എന്നാണു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. കാരുണ്യക്കൂടുതൽ ഭീരുത്വമാണെന്നു കാവ്യവിവരമില്ലാത്തവർ തെറ്റിദ്ധരിക്കും.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : Is it the honourable member's suggestion that the lathi should be replaced by guns ?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : അതിനെക്കാൾ ശക്തമായ എന്തെങ്കിലും പ്രയോഗിക്കണം. അല്ലാതെ അടിക്കയും വെടിവെയ്ക്കയും ചെയ്കയല്ലാ വേണ്ടതു.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: ഗവണ്മെൻറു അടിച്ചമർത്തണമെന്നു മെംബർ പറഞ്ഞല്ലോ. ഇപ്പോൾ അങ്ങിനെ ചെയ്യുന്നില്ലേ?

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Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: അടിച്ചമർത്തണമെന്നു ഞാൻ പറഞ്ഞതിന്റെ അർത്ഥം ലാത്തികൊണ്ടടിക്കണമെന്നല്ല. അതൊരു ഭാഷാശൈലിയാണ്. എന്റെ സ്നേഹിതൻ അതു മനസ്സിലാക്കാത്തതിൽ ഞാൻ സഹതപിക്കുന്നു.

രണ്ടോ മൂന്നോ ചക്രം ചെലവുചെയ്താൽ ഒരു തൊപ്പി വാങ്ങിച്ചു ആക്കം ധരിക്കാം.

Mr. K. M. Korah: Is it parliamentary to refer to the dress of another party?

Persident: That, by itself, is not unparliamentary; but, if a particular uniform is derided or spoken ill of, that is unparliamentary.

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: സർ, യാതൊരു പാർട്ടിയുടേയും ഡ്രസ്സിനെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചല്ലാ ഞാൻ അതു പറഞ്ഞതെന്നു മി: കോരയുടെ അറിവിനായി പ്രസ്താവിച്ചുകൊള്ളട്ടെ. എന്നാൽ ഭാഗ്യവശാലൊ, നിർഭാഗ്യവശാലൊ സ്റ്റേറ്റുകാൺഗ്രസ അംഗങ്ങൾക്കു തൊപ്പിയുണ്ടു.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: May I know to whom the honourable member refers when he says '*Thoppikkar*'?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: Now I mean the State Congress party.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Is the member aware that there are other honourable members wearing turbans?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: 'ടർബൺ' എന്നാൽ തലപ്പാവു എന്നാണർത്ഥം, തൊപ്പിക്കാരെപ്പറ്റിയാണു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: May I know from the member .....

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: ഇങ്ങനെ ചോദ്യംചോദിച്ചു സമയം കളയുകയാണെങ്കിൽ എനിക്കു പറയാനുള്ളതു പറയാൻ സമയം കിട്ടുകയില്ല.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: Does the member refer to the party outside the House or inside the House?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju: നിയമസഭയ്ക്കു അകത്തായാലും ശരി, പുറത്തായാലും ശരി തൊപ്പിക്കാരെപ്പറ്റിയാണു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: May I know whether the expression '*Thoppikkar*' is parliamentary?

President: As I find that a number of questions have been raised on this matter, I should think it is better I make the position clear so far as the parliamentary limits of debate are concerned.

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[President]

It is not here alone but in many parts of this country and in many countries in the world that particular uniforms have characterised specific political parties. We are all aware of blue-shirts, red-shirts, brown-shirts and black-shirts. They constantly refer to each other like that. In the early days of the communist party when they were not considered to be quite within the pale of parliamentary propriety, they used to distinguish themselves by wearing red ties. Then, on a particular occasion, one of them was referred to in the House at 'that gentleman with a red tie', and the question was raised whether that was parliamentary. The Speaker ruled that that was permissible where a party uses a distinctive item of dress as significant of that party. But that ruling has no reference to the other rule of parliamentary propriety that it is not open to one honourable member to refer to the particular costume or item of attaire in such a manner as to make fun of it or to deride it. That is the rule of parliamentary decorum in this matter.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : May I know from the member whether when he uses the word '*Thoppikkars*', he includes Muslims also?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : ഇനിമേൽ ഞാൻ പറയുന്ന ഈ സ്റ്റേറ്റുകാൺഗ്രസ്പാർട്ടി അംഗങ്ങളെ ഉദ്ദേശിച്ചാണെന്നു ഞാൻ നേരത്തെ വിശദമാക്കിക്കഴിഞ്ഞു.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Do I come in there ; I have no cap?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : അദ്ദേഹം ഇപ്പോഴും തൊപ്പി ഇടാത്തതുകൊണ്ടു ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു അദ്ദേഹത്തെ തല്ക്കാലം ബാധിക്കണമെന്നില്ല.

Mr. K. M. Korah : Is not Mr. Kuruvilla a member of the State Congress party ?

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : I do not know.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : I am a member of the State Congress party.

President : I have already given my ruling on the question If Mr. Kunju has made what may be called a sarcastic or derisive reference with regard to the costume of any other honourable member, he is out of order and will be called to order. But the question whether one member has got his cap, or has taken it off, or has left it on his way to this hall, these are questions which, however interesting they may be to the wearer of the cap, are not of any interest to this House.

Mr. Padiyara Joseph Kunju : ഈ തൊപ്പി ഒഴിച്ചു മഹാത്മാഗാന്ധിയോടൊ ഇൻഡ്യൻനാഷണൽ കാൺഗ്രസിനോടൊ ഇവക്കു എന്തു ബന്ധമാണുള്ളതെന്നു ഞാൻ ഇവരോടു ചോദിക്കുന്നു. അവിടെ കാണുന്നതു എന്താണ്? ശരിയായാ

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ലും തെറ്റായാലും അവക്ക് ഒരുത്തരവാദിത്വമുണ്ട്, പ്രമാണമുണ്ട്, ഒരു തത്വമുണ്ട്. എന്നാൽ ഇവിടെയുള്ളവരോ? സ്വാർത്ഥതയുള്ളവർ, ഒരു പ്രമാണവുമില്ലാത്തവർ, പൗരുഷത്തിന്റെ കണികപോലും തീണ്ടിയിട്ടില്ലാത്തവർ, ഒരു തത്വവുമില്ലാത്തവർ—ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ളവരെയാണ് നാം ഇവിടെ കാണുന്നത്.

President: Your time is up.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: Sir, I rise to offer a dispassionate criticism of the financial position of the State as seen from the budget presented to us, not to congratulate the Financial Secretary for the budget nor to condemn him.

On a careful analysis of the budget, although it shows a surplus-the people do not care whether it is a surplus or a deficit budget; they want adequate and proportionate return for their hard-earned money which is squeezed out of them—, the people are not satisfied with the provision made in the budget for their real necessities. They are not satisfied that the revenues are being spent for the maximum good of the greatest number of the people. Viewed from that standard, the expenditure side of the budget clearly shows that very little concern is shown for the interests of the masses as a whole. It is a truism to say that the bulk of our revenue is derived from land tax; and that comes from the agriculturists who form the backbone of the State.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai: What is the proportion that our land revenue bears to our total revenues?

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: The honourable member may refer to the budget.

Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai: May I know what the member understands from 'bulk of revenue'?

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: It is open to the honourable member to understand it in the way it is capable of being understood.

President: Honourable members will remember that the debate by the non-officials shall automatically terminate by 4·30 so that the official members will have about half-an-hour for their replies. Therefore less of such mutual interruptions will mean that more of them will be able to say what they have got to say.

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: The condition of agriculture at present is rather appalling. Sir, it is not the agriculturist that gets electric lights and fans, water supply, drainage and other amenities of a luxurious life. They do not hear the music of the radio. Instead, what they get is demand notices for arrears of tax. They are pursued with warrants of arrest for agricultural debts. We hear of

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[Mr.T. Mahomed Ismail.]

the police troubling the people and there is an all round clamour from the people for Government help and support from official high handedness. By God, let us remember that Travancore lives in her villages and so it is for the sake of the villages that the money contributed by them has to be spent. Nor is the condition of the people in towns of Travancore much better. Who has not seen the pitiable sight of beggars and dogs fighting furiously for the stray leaves thrown out from hotels? Sir, if we consider these factors, it is no wonder that the people feel that money is collected from them to spend for the satisfaction of the rich and the officials, and that a major portion of the revenue is spent for satisfying their whims and fancies. There is no attempt on the part of Government to look after the needs of the people, and more than all, there is no money for them. I ask the question, why there is no money to spend for the nation-building activities of Government, to ameliorate the condition of the people. The answer is very simple. It is because nearly half the income of our country is spent for the salaries of the officers. Times out of number both the Houses of Legislature have clamoured for the reduction of the high-paid salaries of officers. What was the result? Nothing was done in satisfaction of that clamour. Again, there are superfluous officers in every department. Many departments can be abolished and some can be amalgamated. I wish to make the point more clear by a reference to one or two departments. Our State, which is not bigger than a district of the Madras Presidency, is divided into four revenue divisions, three under three Division Peishkars and the fourth under a Commissioner. The Devicolam Division which consists of only two hilly taluks constitutes a separate Division. It was first constituted just to satisfy the desires of the European planters, but now there is no necessity for such a separate division and the money spent for the upkeep of this separate division is spent uselessly. But if this division is abolished and the two taluks are amalgamated with the Kottayam Division, we will save a good amount.

In this connection I would ask the Government to consider seriously whether they can run the administrative machinery without some departments such as the Office of the Game Warden and all the paraphernalia of the State Guests Department. Let me also inform this House about the desirability of reducing the number of officers in many of the department. Take for instance the Police Department. We have got a Commissioner, 5 D. S. P's and 6 A. S. P's. On many occasions this legislative House has passed resolutions requesting Government to reduce the number of officers and supervising authorities. Take the traffic branch of the Police Department. We have got 6 or 7 Traffic Inspectors. With the inauguration of the State Road Transport we naturally expected that

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a reduction will be made in this branch because the State Transport Department is not subject to the control of the Motor Vehicles Regulation or the control of the Traffic Police.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: May I point out to the Honourable Member that they are subject to the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Regulation and the control of the Traffic Police?

Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail: But, Sir, the fact remains that they do not take any action against the irregularities of the Transport Department and what we understand is that there is no use of these traffic officers so far as the lines which are under the State Transport Department are concerned. Reduction of staff will make it possible to reduce a considerable amount of expenditure in this line. I can quote instances in regard to other departments also. In the Electrical Department there are several Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers and Supervisors. In each of these departments it is possible to reduce considerably the amount that is spent by reducing the number of officers.

In this connection I also wish to bring to the notice of Government one important fact that no office should be created for the sake of individuals. This practice, if there is any and I know there is, could not but be severely condemned.

Thus, by the abolition of unnecessary departments, by the amalgamation of some, by reducing superfluous offices and by reducing the salaries of the high-paid officers, it is possible for Government to find out sufficient money to utilize for the good of the people, to attend to nation-building activites so as to have contentment and peace in the country side. Not only that. If it is possible to reduce this high expenditure, it will be possible for Government to increase the salaries of low paid officials also. We hear much of corruption everywhere, especially in the case of the low paid officials, simply because they find it impossible to get on with the small salary that they get. Sir, it is impossible for our country to pay any officer more than Rs. 500 a month and no officer should be given less than Rs. 20.

Coming now to the recent commercial ventures of the Government, it is really a relief for me to turn to that side of the budget. It is a matter of genuine satisfaction that the commercial undertakings of Government, such as the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme, the Ceramic Factory and the State Transport, are progressing well and are capable of giving sufficient income for us next year. Sir, the failure of commercial undertakings such as the Rubber Factory and Sugar Factory sponsored by Government has created a feeling in the minds of the people that Government undertakings will not be a success. If properly worked, I am sure that these concerns will give us more than what we require for the reconstruction of the finances of our State.

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President: Does the Hon. Member say anything about the new reconstructed Sugar Factory? Government have nothing to do with it.

Mr. Mohamed Ismail: I am not speaking of the reconstructed Sugar Factory. The failure of these concerns has created an impression in the minds of the people that Government sponsored enterprises may not be a success. My opinion is that it is possible for us to gain a good amount for the uplift of our country if these concerns are properly worked. It is also my desire to point out in this connection that the State Transport Scheme may be extended to North Travancore and that the Water Ways may also be taken under the control of the Government. But I want to stress in this connection that on no account the enhancement of fares should be effected because it will affect the poor people considerably. Instead of that, it is possible, if all the lines are taken under Government control, to get sufficient gain without enhancing the fares.

Moreover Goverment have to keep in mind certain fundamental principles as far as these commercial concerns are concerned. We cannot help getting experts from outside. But there appears to be a tendency to import outsiders without looking in to their past history, their character and qualifications. I need not mention one by one the concerns which have resulted in heavy losses due to the fact that these experts were carelessly imported. When we get these experts to our country, really more often they are foreigners, we give them local subordinates. These experts, because they are foreigners, are not able to understand the real position of our State and therefore, their local subordinates do all sorts of mischief. If the Government relax their control over these Departments I do not think it is possible for the experts, however great they may be, to manage the schemes profitably. The local subordinates have their own axes to grind.

It is a pity that the State Transport Department and other commercial concerns which are conducted solely for the sake of gain could not appoint members of different communities in their departments. In this connection I fully realise the necessity for appointing efficient hands, because we are to work these concerns for gain. While conceding that I assert that all communities have a right to serve in these departments also.

In this connection I am forced to speak a word about the communal representation. My friend Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai stated in his speech that communal bickerings are due to the voting system. But I say it is not so. It is simply because of the favouritism and partiality shown by the appointing authorities that all communities do not get a fair share in the service. I do not wish to speak much on this point at present because I know I have got time enough to

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speak on this matter when the question comes under demands. At present suffice it to say that this is the burning problem of the day and nobody need misunderstand me when I say that unless and until all communities are properly represented in public service and justice is meted out to all, Travancore is not going to have a good and prosperous time inspite of surplus budget.

About the activities of the different groups of people having different political outlook, Mr. Joseph Kunju has said much. He stated that subversive activities are going on. I appeal to Government that if they believe that any man or group of people are carrying on subversive activities, they must be dealt with severely. There is no use of saying here that people are doing this thing and that thing. Government must take legal action immediately and see that our country is saved from such activities if such activities do exist.

Mr. K. M. Korah: The Financial Secretary has stated that the financial condition of the State is thoroughly sound and satisfactory. If the real financial position is as stated by him, every Travancorean must feel glad over it. But on a study of the budget I am led to believe that, that statement is not quite correct. Before entering into the general discussion of the budget I should like to say that even in spite of the Financial Secretary's speech it is not possible to understand what exactly the financial position of the State is. To understand the real financial position of the State, the Financial Secretary should have given a clear statement of the real assets and liabilities. To show that our assets are sufficient and enough to discharge our liability, the Financial Secretary has included capital outlay as assets. As an instance in point I may say that in the assets column on page 13, the Financial Secretary has included the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme works Rs. 137·54 lakhs as assets. I am asking Sir, is this the proper way of showing our assets?

(At this Stage, the President left the Chair which was then occupied by Mr. Kottoor Kunjukrishna Pillai, one of the Panel of Chairmen).

If that is the proper way, I cannot understand why the Financial Secretary has left out the other capital works such as, the Kodayar Project, the Trivandrum-Quilon Railway, the Chakkay-Tampanur Railway, etc. That this was not the practice will be seen from the assets and liabilities given in the Administration Reports prior to 1109. Before 1109, the practice was to treat these items under a separate heading known as capital outlay in 1109. We find for the first time that some of the items mentioned as capital outlay in 1108 are given as assets. I may refer to some instances. Trivandrum Electric Supply Rs 7·70 lakhs; Telephone Rs 1·2 lakhs, Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme Rs 5·1 lakhs, these were included in 1108 budget as capital outlay and not as assets.

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Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon (*Electrical Engineer to Government*) : The provisions referred to by the member such as Trivandrum Electric Supply telephone, Pallivasal works etc., are converted into 5 per cent. stock. The Government get interest out of these investments. Hence there is justification for calling those provisions as assets.

Chairman : The official member will please explain that when his turn comes.

Mr. K. M. Korah : But in 1109, they are shown as assets. My submission is that the object of this change is to show that we have enough assets to meet our liabilities. I may say, that this is not the correct method of giving a statement of assets and liabilities.

I may say a word on the liabilities of the State. Of the many short term liabilities the Savings Banks Deposits alone come to Rs 206·17 lakhs at the end of next year. Under ordinary circumstances, all the depositors may not come all on a sudden for their deposits. But now a peculiar situation has arisen in view of the Quilon National Bank crisis. So what I submit is that the Government should have at least a substantial portion of these deposits as cash in the treasury. Now, what would be the closing Government balance according to Government accounts? On a perusal of page 12 of the budget, we find the closing Government balance at Rs 16·02 lakhs.

I may view the budget from another aspect. The total amount allotted for expenditure next year comes to Rs 259·99 lakhs. Out of this Rs 96 lakhs have to be set apart for interest on debts, sinking fund, superannuation allowances, pensions, Stationery and Printing etc. To this should be added salaries and allowances of officers which would come to Rs 100 lakhs and odd. So, the total amount set apart would be Rs 196·66 lakhs. The balance which remains for peoples' purposes comes to Rs 63·33 lakhs. This state of affairs is highly unsatisfactory.

I may now be permitted to say a word on the amount spent on salaries and allowances. The amount spent in 1090 towards that item was Rs 54 lakhs and when we come to 1112 it is Rs 103 lakhs and this year and next year, I think the amount would go much higher. In 1090, the income was nearly Rs 2 crores and during the period commencing from that till 1112, the income has increased by about 25 per cent. while the salary has increased by about 100 per cent.

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According to me, the chief reason that contributes to the unsatisfactory condition of our finances is this highly disproportionate amount of salary in the State. Hence, my suggestion is that it is high time to reduce the number of appointments and reduce the salary and that to a considerable extent. I may also say that our State is paying Rs. 24,000 to the A. P. I. From the nature of the work turned out by them I, as a representative of the people, strongly urge the necessity for stopping this payment.

I invite the attention of Government to the famine stricken labourers of Kuttanad who are without any work now. I am in touch with those people and I therefore know their conditions. Most of the labourers are suffering from famine. They do not get even a day's meal. I request Government to spend the amount that is annually given to the A. P. I. towards the people of Kuttanad who are without any money for their daily food.

Another point to which I should draw the attention of the House is regarding the appointment of the Director of Development and the proposed Ascu treatment of timber. Before launching into this experiment and spending money, I may draw the attention of the Government to a Bulletin that was recently published by the Research Institute of Dehra Dun on the treatment of timbers. From what I have been able to understand, it is too premature to express an opinion on Ascu treatment. So, I would suggest that Government would wait and see, how far it is a success before launching into that experiment.

Viewing the budget from our agriculturist's point of view, I am asking, in right earnest, whether there is any provision in the budget to relieve the burden of the agriculturists of the State or to improve the system of agriculture. It is admitted that 95 per cent. of our people are agriculturists who are deeply immersed in debt. We know that provisions of the regulation do not at all give them adequate relief. It is high time Government afford them substantial relief. It has been the policy of Government in other parts of India to relieve the indebtedness of the agriculturists and to ameliorate their condition by means of legislative enactments and other ways. I am glad to note here that the Government have recognised the urgent necessity of giving adequate relief to them by means of legislation. I request Government to take the initiative in that matter. The bill should be sponsored by the Government, because, if a bill is introduced from the non-official side, it is likely to end in failure. At the moment when the ryot is in need of immediate help the Government should rescue them.

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[Mr. K. M. Korah]

In Madras in spite of opposition from a few money lending interests, the bill was successfully passed by the Government. Here the present situation is much more favourable for the passing of such a measure than in Madras. I would earnestly request Government to introduce the bill and convene a special session of the Legislature for the same at the earliest opportunity.

I would in this connection urge the necessity of giving substantial concessions to the agriculturists of Kuttanad who have taken loans both from the Agricultural and Industrial Departments. The unprecedented fall in the price of cocoanuts, the spread of cocoanut disease for which no remedy has yet been found, the enormous fall in the price of paddy all these have impoverished the Kuttanad ryots. They have not been able to pay back the loans as per their contracts. What do Government lose in giving them 25 or 30 instalments for repayment. If Government realise that the agriculturists require immediate help, why not Government give them help in that direction at least? Government should think themselves to be the creditors of the agriculturists and effect the necessary help so that the ryots may be enabled to pay back the loans in easy instalments. Government themselves should set up that ideal. They must have the large-heartedness to help them at the moment of their dire need. I am also surprised to see that no amount is provided in the budget by way of special punja loans. How is it possible for Kuttanad ryots to carry on their cultivation in the coming year?

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar (*Nominated*): Is the member aware that the loans are not being repaid by the ryots?

Mr. K. M. Korah: The member himself knows that the loans are not realised mostly because of the inefficiency of the officers engaged in the collection of those amounts from the ryots concerned. If some loans are not granted by Government a large part of the Kuttanad fields will remain uncultivated. Even now, it is not too late to render them help in the direction suggested by me. So, I request them to lend their generous hand to the needy.

A word about the suppression of civil liberties, Sir.

Chairman: The member has exceeded his time.

Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai (*Tovala cum Agastisvaram*): Sir, before entering into the discussion of the budget, let me also congratulate the Financial Secretary for the very excellent budget which he has presented to us. Administrative and financial programmes of the Government indicated in the budget and the Dewan's statement explaining the budget deserve our high admiration and heartiest approval.

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Sir, referring to that policy and programme the "Madras Mail" said a few days ago that it is a thing of which any Government ought to feel proud. I would like to submit that it is a policy which every Travancorean ought to feel proud of. The most successful attempts of our Government in increasing the sources of revenue, the manner in which they were raised and utilised and the objects and the principle underlying the whole plan are matters on which we ought to feel proud of. An examination of the budget during the previous years will show that the increase of revenue had been under land revenue, Excise and other items. We know what is meant by the increase in land revenue. It means pressure on the poor ryots. It is very creditable on the part of the present Government that it is directing its attention towards exploring all legitimate resources of the State and making the best use of them. That Our Government have been able to increase the revenue, which, as the Financial Secretary says, is the highest on record, without resorting to fresh taxation and without any undue pressure on the ryots is certainly a matter for congratulation. What is the object of earning and exploring these new sources of income? It is all for planned programme of national reconstruction. So far as land revenue is concerned, the door is closed. The utmost possible limits of taxation has been reached already. Any attempt at further taxing the ryots is not right; and it would not be creditable on the part of the Government to resort to new sources of taxation. The Dewan has said in his speech before the joint session that the policy of the Government is not to lock up the increased revenue in banks at a low rate of interest but to utilise them and invest them in schemes and profitable undertakings. Sir, what is the policy underlying that and what is the object of the Government? The object is to secure the greatest happiness and to ensure peaceful, happy and harmonious advancement of the people of the State as a whole. Sir, an examination of the policy and programme of Government will be found to embody the most progressive and most advanced of political ideals. In ancient days the individual existed for the sake of the State, but in modern society the State exists for the sake of the individual. What I mean is that the most important thing for the State is to secure the best life to the individual and the individual can realise the best life only through the State. So when any measure is proposed, there is little advantage to be gained by asking the question whether the particular measure is within the sphere of the State or whether it is meddling with the sphere of the individual. On the other hand the question to be asked is whether a particular measure tends to the greatest happiness of the greatest number and to the greatest advancement of the people as a whole. Sir, in this connection,

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[Mr. V. S. Arumukham Pillai.]

our future revenue policy is worth special mention. It is a matter for gratification that the present Government have recognised the real hardships of the ryots. Over and above that, the present Government have recognised also the necessity that the agricultural population do stand in need of relief. The Dewan said in the joint session that demands for remission will be coming from agriculturists from particular areas which will not be dismissed. That shows that the object of the Government is to give proper relief in appropriate cases. We are also glad to learn that the object of the Government is to rely less and less on agricultural income and more and more on other sources. We have before us series of measures and schemes and they have to be considered and judged in the light of what I have said before, namely whether any particular measure operates harshly upon the individual and whether it tends to the happiness of the people of the State as a whole. Judged from this standard, I can assure the House and the public that the various schemes and measures now given effect to are for the advancement of the people as a whole. I do not wish to take the time of the House by pursuing with the various schemes and measures that have been already dealt with by honourable members.

I will refer to one other aspect, and that is with regard to industrialisation. I may say that we are only at the initial stage of industrialisation and it is a matter of immense gratification that even at this very initial stage we are able to announce to the world that a major portion of our income comes not from agriculture as in Madras, but from other sources. This is a matter for genuine pride. In this connection I will read one or two passages from a speech delivered by Sir M. Visveswarayya, in Trivandrum, to the South Indian States Peoples' Conference.

> "In a well-managed modern State, industries and trade provide more than half the income of the people. Under Indian conditions, nearly three-fourths of the population live on the lowest form of occupation, practised in the most primitive manner, namely agriculture. No one in authority seems concerned about this. There is no active interest in the powers that be to develop industrial life or spread sound ideas of economic progress among our people.
>
> The wealth of the country is derived by the work of its people. In the West, State organisations provide both training and work for their people and the country reaps a rich harvest. Here, on the other hand, material resources remain undeveloped, and the brain power of the country is allowed to lie fallow to the permanent injury of the efficiency and earning power, of our people. In this sense many of the States administrations are, I regret I have to state, unpatriotic, if not out of date."

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I quote this passage simply to show that the policy pursued by our State embodies the most advanced of political ideals and the various measures, and schemes if pursued and properly worked out with the harmonious co-operation of the people, I am sure, our State will attain a position of predominence. Sir, what is wanted is hearty co-operation and good understanding from all sections of the people.

I will be failing in my duty if I do not advert to one important matter and that is with regard to the land revenue reform. I mean resurvey and resettlement. Our country stands in urgent need of land revenue reform. The glaring defect in the present system is the unequal distribution of tax burdens. Unless drastic measures are adopted and resettlement is inaugurated, existing defects with regard to inequalities and unequal distribution of tax burden cannot be remedied. The last settlement was conducted between 1053 and 1081. Since then many new plantations have sprung up. There have been encroachments of rubber and cardamom plantations. If only a resurvey is instituted it will bring to light large encroachments and this will help the State to gain a great deal by way of capital revenue and recurring revenue. Most of the suits in civil courts are due to want of proper survey records. There are arrears of settlement work still not cleared. For this reason and for the fair and equitable distribution of taxation it is highly necessary that a resurvey and resettlement is instituted.

Mr. P. I. Simon (*Municipal Councils*): Sir, I rise to offer a few remarks generally on the budget. The budget as presented by the Financial Secretary shows that our financial position is unquestionably sound. The revenue estimate for 1114 is Rs 261·41 lakhs. According to me, this is a very modest estimate. It is found to be more in view of all the measures the Government have adopted to improve our existing sources of revenue as well as to devise fresh sources. Our estimates in 1112 and 1113 were actually exceeded. Within the last two years our revenue has increased by about 20 lakhs and the next year's revenue estimate is the highest on record. There is no other State in India excepting Hyderabad and Mysore which is getting as much by way of revenue as Travancore is budgeting for. In point of population also we rank third among the Native states in India.

The existing sources of revenue, such as Income tax and Excise, have improved considerably. The Income Tax Department has recently been reorganised and effective safeguards are provided against evasion of tax. This has given a substantial increase in revenue under that head. The Government have adopted effieient methods of preventing smuggling of tobacco in the northern frontier and the increase in revenue under Excise is estimated at Rs. 1·76 lakhs.

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[Mr. P. I. Simon.]

[At this stage the President resumed the Chair.]

The commercial transport scheme that started business in the month of Kumbhom last has already yielded a net income of Rs 1·15 lakhs. The expansion of commercial transport business during the coming year, especially between Munnar and Alwaye, so as to connect our planting areas with the Cochin Harbour is estimated to give us a net profit of more than Rs. two lakhs.

The ceramic factory work has progressed very satisfactorily during the current year and we are assured of about a lakh of rupees as net revenue during the course of the next year.

The appointment of Mr. Kamesam as Director of Development augurs well for the State. Our Forest resources have not so far been exploited to our best advantage. He is devising ways and means of utilising the manifold varieties of timber found in our forests so as to augment the revenue from our forests in the most substantial manner. The Director has already succeeded in showing a substantial increase under sale of softwood. He promises that, by the ascu treatment, our timbers can be made use of in lieu of steel and cement for the purpose of constructing bridges. He is also proposing to manufacture pressed boards, artificial silk, sporting goods and bamboo pulp boards from the raw materials available from our forests. I am sure that these ambitious schemes of the Director of Development will bear fruit and the revenue from our forest resources will be enhanced considerably.

The mining resources of our State are plentiful and it is very much to be regretted that they are not exploited sefficiently well. I should think that the Government are guilty of gross negligence in omitting to make the best use of our resources in that respect. We are beginning to forget the days when our State employed the services of Geologist. He did precious little and it is long since he has retired and no one has yet taken his place. So far, considerable areas has been leased to Mineral Companies for nominal returns to the State. It is gratifying to note from the Dewan's speech to the joint session of the Legislature that he is not unmindful of the fact that these being natural monopolies of the State, should be exploited to the best advantage of the State.

Now, passing on to the expenditure side of the budget, I have to say that the needs of a progressive administration such as ours should necessarily involve heavy expenditure. Our State has always enjoyed the reputation that it is one of the most well governed States in all India. The expenditure side in a beneficent and progressive administration in a well governed State ought to be on the increase every year.

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A University for Travancore has become an accomplished fact and we are now free to have our own educational policy and our educational system can be so fashioned so as to suit the special needs and conditions of our State. Besides the usual faculties of law and arts, the University also provides for technical faculties such as engineering, fisheries and textile technology. There is also a faculty of oriental studies and fine arts which is calculated to revive our indigenous arts. There is also a proposal to make arrangements for the production of books of modern scientific knowledge in Malayalam.

The policy of the State has all along been to invest our moneys in reproductive schemes. We are nearing the completion of our Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme and we have spent more than a crore over it. Like all other Hydro Electric Schemes it is bound to give us a net return of 9 to 10 per cent on our investment. Idle money cannot be tolerated even in the hands of private citizens and they ought to be made subject to higher taxation. If our moneys are deposited in banks, the interest we get is never more than two per cent. and Government have to be congratulated on their policy of finding out more profitable reproductive schemes.

The agriculturist in our country is in the most miserable and deplorable condition. He is heavily indebted and the crops he is able to raise in spite of drought and other adverse circumstances do not fetch him an economic price. It is in such junctures that Government ought to seriously consider the necessity of expanding their functions by assuming direct control of agriculture. We have accepted the principle of nationalising transport and the nationalisation of the salt industry is being pressed for in certain quarters. Let us nationalise agriculture by taking up control of it in so far as bringing all fallow lands under cultivation, dictating to the agriculturists the crops to be grown and guaranteeing an economic price for the crops. Unless something of this kind is done, there will be no end to the demand for relief to agricultural indebtedness and to remission of taxes.

Coming to my own constituency, Sir, the Municipalities, I have to bring to your kind notice that Government are not fostering the growth of the existing Municipalities nor are they constituting Municipalities in towns where they do not exist. There are 46 towns in our State and there are Municipalities in 17 towns only. As an instance of the vast length of our State where there are no Municipalities, I should mention that for a distance of 80 miles from Trivandrum to Thiruvalla along the M. C. road, there is not even a single Municipality. There are important towns on the way for instance Kottarakara and Chengannur that are fit to be administered by Municipalities.

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[Mr. P. I. Simon.]

The existing Municipalities should be allowed to grow and Government should grant them more powers and privileges. Government should have nothing to do in Municipal towns and all the functions that are now being performed by Government such as medical aid, education, transport, lighting, water, drainage etc., should properly form the functions of the Municipal Councils. As at present constituted they have nothing better to do than sweeping the roads and scavenging. The town planning scheme in Trivandrum has not progressed satisfactorily. The roads stand in urgent need of being widened. There are very many narrow roads in the busy parts of the town where school going children are exposed to dangers from vehicular traffic.

At this juncture, Sir, I may say that the District Municipalities Bill and the City Corporation Bill that have been introduced into the Legislature nearly five years back have not yet emerged from the stage of the Select Committee. The delay is unpardonable whoever may be responsible for it. I request the honourable member, the Legal Remembrancer to push it through expeditiously.

In conclusion, Sir, I congratulate Government on their policy regarding the exploitation of the States resources and that regarding the expenditure on useful and reproductive lines which would tend to make the financial position of the State more and more sound.

President: Under the Rules the meetings of the Council should commence ordinarily at 11 A. M., and end at 4-30 P. M. As a number of members have given notices that they desire to speak on the various Demands for grants, if the House has no objection we could continue to sit till 5 P. M.

No objection was raised.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, I have the honour, pleasure, privilege and pride to belong to that class of members known as the elected members whom one honourable member not belonging to that class had the magnanimity and charity to characterise here as 'Thendikal' (തെണ്ടികൾ). At the outset I would like to thank the Dewan of Travancore for the dexterous way in which he was able to extract an assurance from the British Government that they would not stand in the way of Travancore or any other Indian State in introducing responsible Government in the States.

President: Order, order. That is an irrelevant remark.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, may I thank Lord Winterton and Lord Zetland for their statements on the subject.

President: Even irrelevant thanks are equally irrelevant.

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Mr. N. V. Chacko: With regard to other matters the activities of the Government may be divided into those which are known and published and those which are not known and would not be published. On the latter I can say nothing. But on the known activities there is little for me to congratulate the Government. It appears that the Government are not giving and devoting proper attention and energy that are needed for constructive and ameliorative works. The Government are wasting and frittering away their time and energy upon activities which do no good to them but result in a lot of evil to the people.

It would seem that the main object of the activities of the Travancore Government is to advertise themselves as great benefactors by whitewashing all their evil acts. They are not doing any real benefit to the people. If they are benefiting the people in any way there cannot be any objection to advertising it. But even when an injury is done to the public it is being tried to be broadcast as a real good to the State. It is not the broadcast news alone that reach the people of the Northern Frontiers and our neighbours but news reach them by other processes which may be called percolation, conduction, etc. I am sure that the Government will do well to follow the healthy example of the present Madras Government in cutting down the salaries of the Government officials and in introducing social and relief measures calculated to improve the condition of the people.

One thing which the Government should not tolerate in Travancore is the flattering of Government officials by the people in the press or on the platform. It appears to me that Government officials are more prone to flattery than their salaries or even bribes in the case of those who accept bribes. Flattery has been badly nauseating to me. It must have sickned all the people of Travancore. It seems to have deprived Government officials of their sanity and discretion and sense of proportion and perspective. It is this appetite for flattery growing by what it feeds on that makes Government officials oversensitive and touchy even with regard to sane criticisms and makes them say that people are disloyal and not law-abiding. Fortunately, some time ago, a rule was made that excepting the Dewan, the Heads of Departments should not receive addresses or presents. I am not complaining about this exception in the case of the Dewan. But no such exception should be made in favour of the Dewan in the matter of flattery.

President: Order, order. I think the honourable member will find no rule enjoining the flattery of the Dewan.

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Mr. N. V Chacko: No, certainly not. What I meant to submit was that flattery is abundently being poured out in Travancore as the waters of the flood of 1099.

President: Order, order. I think the flattery such as it is is judiciously administered along with denunciation in the proportion of 100 to 1. (*Laughter*)

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Flattery is twice cursed. It curses both the flatterer and the person flattered. I am not complaining against any judicious approval of the conduct of the Government. If a Press Regulation has to be retained in Travancore it may contain only the provisions that the license of the flattering newspaper shall be cancelled and that its editor will be liable to whipping for flattery. In fact this evil is so rampant now that it is being indulged in even in this House. In the Financial Secretary's budget speech in 1112 there is one passage that is not only flattery but blasphemy also.

"As a result of our prayers and mainly because of the energetic drive of the present Dewan who assumed charge shortly after the last budget, whose career is, as you all know, characterised by the uniform good fortune and prosperity and whose touch converts every thing into gold etc. etc."

Here there is an implied comparison between God and a human being and that is why I said there was blasphemy.

President: Order, order. I take it that the budget that is being discussed is the budget for the year 1114 M. E. The speech delivered in connection with the budget for the year 1113 is not quite in point.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, I have been quoting an instance to show that even in a budget speech there are such examples of flattery. The gift of golden touch is not a blessing as I have been taught in the school final class. If everything that a person touches is turned into gold his children also would be converted into gold.

President: Honourable member will proceed with the budget for 1114 M. E.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: It appears that the general policy of the Government is tending towards totalitarianism or fascism or nazism. These are quite foreign to the soil and tradition of India and all the more so of Travancore. I have read a neat definition by the Honourable President that dictatorship is the sublimation of popular will. I have seen pictures where Mussolini is seen working with peasants. I do not know whether our Dewan or any other Government officer including the Director of Agriculture will be prepared to work for some time at least with the peasants. There

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is much difference between those countries where dictatorship prevails and our State where the Government are not able to understand or appreciate popular will.

One word with regard to the question of disloyalty and of not being law-abiding. I am very much touched by this. There can be individuals whose certain acts may be disloyal in that particular case. But till now or till atleast about 5 years ago, we never knew or heard that the country as a whole or any community or section of the community there, was in any way disloyal and nonlaw-abiding. For some time only some papers were making that charge. But now even the Government have begun it. If it were true that there is disloyalty in this country when did it originate? What or who was the cause for that? It is very essential to seek and find it out. If the people of Travancore have from time immemorial been traditionally loyal and law abiding and till now if there has not been the slightest sign of disloyalty to His Highness the Maharaja who is as dear to the people as their life and soul, how can it be feasible for the people to turn to disloyalty to the Maharaja all of a sudden? If they are not disloyal to the Maharaja they cannot be disloyal to anything which has the sanction of the Maharaja. Loyalty to the Maharaja does not mean loyalty to officers. It is not as Lamb says 'if you love me you should love my dog also. Loyalty to the Maharaja cannot mean loyalty to even peon or scavenger employed in the public service.

Mr. R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether the Dewan speaking at Kothamangalam made statements to the effect that the State Congress is disloyal?

Mr. N. V. Chacko: When the head of the administration either in his personal or official capacity makes a remark that certain people or sections of people are disloyal that certainly is a very serious matter. Probably the Dewan may have got such information from the C. I. D. Let us see what the honourble member, the Rajyarakshapravina had to say about the Police. This is what he says: "Sir, does the honourable member really think that the Commissioner would not have tried his best to ascertain who the culprits were? Does the honourable member really believe that the policeman is likely to come forward and confess before the Commissioner. Is it the case with all the accused?" I am reading from the Council Proceedings of the 29th Karkadagam 1112, page 538. The Commissioner means that the police would never speak the truth when it goes against their interest and that in such cases they should not be expected to speak the truth. Probably he is advising them here not to speak the truth. Even murderers after committing murders rush from the scene of offence right to the police station and confess the guilt. The implication in the sentences

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[Mr. N. V. Chacko.]

just quoted is an admission that every confession by the accused is the result of tortures. There are at least rare exceptions to him.

President : Order, order. The Honourable member has got four minutes more.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : Yes, Sir. In ninety-nine cases out of hundred it may be the result of torture. My submission is that the report of the police cannot be swallowed as a whole. I am sure that all the people of Travancore are entirely loyal and law-abiding unless we are going to define loyalty and law-abidingness in the terms in which Dr. Johnson defined patriotism.

Mr. R. V. Thomas ; May I know what that definition is ?

Mr. N. V. Chacko : I do not mention it here now.

With regard to the question of loyalty I would like to quote two lines which are considered to be the deepest lines in Shakespeare 'There is nothing good or bad but thinking makes it so.' That is why the State Congress has been accused by the Government of disloyalty while the Travancore National Congress agitating with the same acknowledged object of attaining responsible Government is considered loyal and law-abiding. If there are any differences between these two they are so minute and casuistic as some Christian churches have got about their doctrines. I feel that the Travancore State Congress is more sinned against by the Government than they have sinned against the Government. I have no time now to quote instances of the Government sinning against the State Congress. The feeling that the State Congress cannot hold meetings while similar meetings to agitate for responsible Government are permitted or even encouraged to be held by other associations like the Travancore National Congress touches a citizen of Travancore to the quick so keenly that one cannot give sufficient expression to it. The question of loyalty and disloyalty is not an academic one. It affects the flesh, the blood, the soul, the body, the imagination and the brain. It was said that some rowdies were responsible for assaulting some State Congress members and disturbing some State Congress meetings. Were not they existing before this? What touched their psychology to cause disturbances now. And if they do not continue the disturbance hereafter what is it that checks them? The worst of it all is the assault on the students in the Science College compound under the very nose of the professors. What do you expect of students except hooting and howling when situations arise? Have we not done so in our own

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days? Even if the students did the worst they could possibly do they ought not to have been attacked at all. We are all aware of the heartlessness and cruelty that were behind the lathi charges on them. It would have been better if the police had used guns or even machine guns against the students. That would have been neater and less wicked.

President: Honourable member has one minute more.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Every detail of it is gruesome. Voltaire has said 'fate is temperament.' I think the present situation in the country is due rather entirely to the temperament of the Government than to anything else. Sir, due to flattery the clear vision and sanity of the Government are blurred or disturbed and they have been made oversensitive and unable to tolerate even fair criticism. But the whole defect of our Government is due to the lack of character. In all the flatteries we do not find any of the Government officials being praised for character. It is character alone that can make one great. Cleverness without character cannot make one great. Satan is clever.

President: Order, order. The honourable member is using defamatory language against an organisation.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: Sir, I withdraw the words most willingly. I have not the remotest intention of offending the Government on anything animate or inanimate.

President: The comparsion of Government to inanimate object may be humorous but is not in keeping with the honourable members's withdrawal.

Mr. N. V. Chacko: The word was not used deliberately. I only meant to say Government or institutions or individuals of comparatively much smaller position or status. Confucious about 2500 years ago.....

President: Order, order.

Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar: Sir, before expressing my views on the budget, I would request you, Sir, to convey to His Highness the Maharaja and to our sympathetic Dewan our deep sense of gratitude for the kind remission of land tax which was announced recently. Sir, the benefit of that remission has been of immense help not only to the poor agriculturists but also to the rich who too in fact, have been seriously affected by the present economic depression. It can be said without fear of contradiction that we have no millionaires in Travancore; everyone, rich or poor, has to depend upon the sale of local products for his subsistence. That being the case, the remission so kindly granted to us has helped us all without any distinction whatsoever at this critical period when we are all badly in need of help.

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[Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar.]

There is just one appeal that I have to make to you, Sir, in regard to this remission. All that I am going to suggest is that the order should be construed a little more liberally. As the order now stands, it appears that only the arrears remaining unpaid on the last day of Karkatakam this year will come under it. It means that those who, due to their sense of loyalty and respect for the Government, have paid the tax promptly and punctually, at great risk and considerable loss, will not be entitled to get the benefit of this remission. Certainly, that will give a premium for delayed payment. In the succeeding years, nobody will think of making punctual payment, and will try to postpone payment of tax till the very last day, in the hope that towards the close of the year Government would announce some sort of remission. Sir, on a previous occasion the benefit of such remission was extended also to those who had already paid the tax. I request the Government that a very liberal construction may be adopted now also and definite orders passed to the effect that the remission announced will be applicable to those who have already paid the tax due and that the amount remitted will be given credit to, as in the past, towards the tax due for next year.

Coming to the budget, it is very encouraging to find that the revenue has reached a peak-point notwithstanding the severe economic depression and the very low price of agricultural products; and it is also noteworthy that there is not a pie of additional taxation. The public of Travancore owe a deep debt of gratitude to you for your exploration of new sources of income without additional taxation. I may in this connection assure you, Sir, that you have the hearty co-operation of all sections of the people. Given sufficient peace of mind I am sure you will find it possible to explore more sources of revenue and to see that our revenues rise by leaps and bounds; and I hope the public will heartily co-operate and do their best to see that you are able to bestow all your attention to such activity and that your attention is not diverted to political and other troubles.

Coming to the budget proper, I want the Financial Secretary to clear my doubts about one point. Items such as minor survey circuits and the bankshall construction at Trivandrum are put down as 'Items not Charged to Revenue', while the bankshall construction expenses at Munambam and the expenses for the construction of the Commissioner's Bungalow at Devicolam, for instance, are put down as 'Items Charged to Revenue'. Sir, similar items of expenditure are grouped under different heads. That gives room for suspicion and requires satisfactory explanation.

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Sir, the Village Panchayat Regulation was passed in 1100, and still we have only six Panchayats. Sir, this is a matter to which the attention of the Government has been pointedly drawn on previous occasions also. I hope Government will seriously consider the question and establish more Village Panchayats so that the Government may be relieved of the responsibility of looking to the needs of the village people. It is high time that we leave village questions to be managed by the villagers themselves.

Sir, the allotment for new roads is, I beg to submit, far from satisfactory. Roads are one of the prime necessities of the agriculturists. Unless they are able to take their produce to markets and sell them, how can they pay the taxes? And for that, they require good roads. And, this is a matter in which very little attention has been paid by the Government notwithstanding repeated requests so far as North Travancore is concerned. In regard to North Travancore, this is not peculiar to this year alone; all along, we have been neglected and our agitations are ignored. In fact, not only in the matter of roads but in every other matter we have been neglected.

Sir, I would draw the attention of the Government to the recent breaking open of the doors of our Perumpavur Munsiff's Court building *i. e.* early in 1113. Sir, this has been occurring in the years 1111 and 1112 also. The fact was brought to the notice of the Police as well as to the notice of the High Court Judge when he went there on inspecton. The matter was seriously taken up and the necessary repairs for the building were recommended. In fact, very recently, by about the end of Mithunam the Munsiff there received official communication from the Engineer to the effect that the urgent repairs of the building at a cost of Rs. 3,000 and odd had been included in the budget and sanctioned and will be carried out at once. Just a few days after this, early in Karkatakam, I received the copy of the budget. To my great surprise I found that there was absolutely no provision for this very important item of work which the High Court themselves have regarded and treated as very urgent.

I shall now refer to another matter in which according to me there is considerable waste of public funds; and we are sure, Sir that if you are convinced that there is waste anywhere you will immediately take steps to see that it is prevented, and the money saved is utilised for useful purposes. Sir, the Law's Delays Committee was appointed and they submitted their report in 1931. After conducting a thorough enquiry they came to the conclusion that the average file for one Munsiff's Court ought to be between 750 and 800 ordinary suits and about 1,000 small cause cases; they also suggested that territorial jurisdiction of certain courts should be

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altered and certain Munsiffs' Courts should be located in certain areas. Sir, it was after going into the question of law's delays and the necessary remedies for avoiding the same that they made their recommendation about the work that a Munsiff can handle and the distribution of Courts. Sir, subsequent to that report, the Jenmi Kudiyan Amendment Regulation XII of 1108 and the Agriculturists Debt Relief Regulation of 1112 were passed. The effictive working of the Nayar Regulation and of the Chitties Regulation, began only after that. As a result of all this litigation has gone down considerably in Travancore State. While there were 65,082 suits in all the Munsiffs' Courts put together in 1108, in 1112 it came down to 51,316. That there has been a decline in litigation as has been admitted in the Report on the Administration of Civil Justice for 1112. Now there are several courts in which the file is far less than the minimum suggested by the Law's Delays Committee, namely, 800 original suits and 1,000 small cause cases. I shall give some figures.

		Cases pending on the 1st of Mithunam.		
		O. S.	*S. C. S.*	*Total.*
Nedumangad	...	481	152	633
Adoor	...	517	193	710
Karunagapally	...	564	229	793
Krishnapuram	...	478	142	620
Ambalapuzha	...	672	162	834
Haripad	...	715	132	847
Kuzhithurai	...	754	116	870
Neyyattinkarai	...	773	138	911

These figures will show that the Munsiffs in these places have not got enough work; somehow or other they are pulling on. When the Munsiffs are asked to explain about the poor disposals and pendency they complain that the distribution of jurisdiction (territorial) is not proper. On the other hand, there are other courts where the files are very very heavy. In Changanacherry for instance, there are 1,352 original suits; 1,338 in Muvattupuzha, and 1,391 in Menachil. There are also several other courts where the number of ordinary suits pending on the said date is more than 1,000 besides small cause suits. Proper territorial adjustment has become absolutely necessary. Some are not able to cope with the work, while others have no work.

Sir, we have only 20 taluks; but we have 40 Munsiff; and side by side, there are also 6 Conciliation Officers. It is clear from Government reports that the Conciliation Officers also have very little

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work to do. Sir, why not, I ask, some of these Munsiffs Courts and Conciliation Courts be abolished and the Conciliation work entrusted to the Munsiffs as is done in Mysore. I am sure that, with proper redistribution of work, it will be possible to reduce the number of Munsiffs at least by 6. Each Munsiff's Court establishment costs the Government yearly not less than Rs.10,000, so that the abolition of 6 Munsiff's Courts would mean an annual saving of Rs. 60,000. I submit, Sir, that this matter deserves the earliest attention of the Government. I am told that memorials have been sent up for the redistribution of territorial jurisdictions of various courts. That has been going on for a number of years. Sir, it is high time that this serious wastage of public money is put an end to as early as possible and the saving effected utilised for the good of the people.

Sir, there appears to be an additional provision in the budget so far as the Excise Department is concerned. Last year some reorganisation took place which involved nearly a lakh of rupees. It was said that regular smuggling of tobacco was going on and if sufficient staff was given, most probably the annual income might increase between 5 to 10 lakhs. The figures in the budget for the current and next year show that the expected income cannot be realised. The amount under tobacco realised during the year 1112 was Rs. 23,51,826. In 1113 when the re-organisation took place and a lakh of rupees was invested, it was expected that the figure will come to Rs. 25 lakhs. But what was actually realised or what is expected to be realised now is only Rs. 23,35,000. In the next year we expect only Rs. 24,40,000, not even an increase of Rs. 1 lakh, the amount spent on the re-organisation of the Department. What does it show ? In the year of the re-organisation it was argued that there was not sufficient time to get a full return adequate to the additional investment. What about the income for 1113 ? The expectations have not turned out to be true. But what do you expect for the current year ? Rs. 24,40,000, a little over what was realised in 1112. This is not encouraging. It is gratifying to note that with the advent of the new Commissioner the tone of the Department has improved and I am glad to say that the subordinates are doing their dutis very satisfactorily. I hope that the Excise Commissioner will see that the additional amount incurred for the re-organisation of the Department is satisfactorily compensated by increased revenue for the next year, and that he will take all possible steps to see that the expectations are fulfilled.

As regards Land Revenue I have to submit one fact. It can be seen that the Land Revenue for this year is expected to be a little over 41 lakhs. It went down to a considerably small amount

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in 1103. Before the pre-depression years, in 1104 it was ranging between Rs. 41 lakhs and Rs. 42 lakhs. It is only very recently that it has reached the figure Rs. 41 lakhs. Sir, we have been getting remissions year after year. That is a fact which could not be forgotten. So far as South Travancore is concerned we see that there is a lot of cry always for reduction of tax. Every year Government are kind enough to grant remission also. What I would submit in this connection is, that it will be advisable that Government at once delcare that a certain portion of the present tax alone be charged on an acre of land ; say Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 per acre. The present tax in some instances comes Rs. 35 per acre. inclusive of watercess. That is very high. Side by side with that declaration Government may also appoint a Committee to go into the whole matter, thoroughly and declare that the excess over the declared rate need be paid only after the report of the committee and only if the committee say that the rate of tax now charged is not excessive. Unless such a declaration is made by Government, the giving of remissions yearly may not create a peaceful atmosphere. The agriculturists are very hard hit, especially in South Travancore and I request you, Sir, to make an announcement on the line suggested by me or in any other conciliatory manner.

Mr. S. Kamesam : Sir, there has been a certain amount of misconception regarding the activities of my department which is hardly six months old. The main policy of my department is the intensive, systamatic and extensive utilisation of our forest resources as dictated by recent research and modern scientific principles. I have no time to go into the various cross sections of the work of my department as I have only a few minutes available to me. I shall meet one or two points that have been brought against my department. Travancore has no resources for steel and cement and she imports steel and cement annually to the extent of over Rs. 10,00,000. On the other hand, she could have exploited in the previous years about 5 lakhs of cubic feet of excellent timber for the purpose, thus effecting considerable economy. This timber could be utilised even for heavy engineering works such as highway bridgs and marine piers. I am glad to tell the Honorary Members that since my coming I have been able to find use and market for 1 1/2 lakhs to 2 lakhs of cubic feet of this timber which could have been exploited during any of the previous years, but which was not exploited, as no use could be found. In this connection the Honourable Members may be interested to know that a sum of Rs. 50,000 has been ear-marked in the budget of my department for rural bridges. These bridges will be constructed during the course of the next year. Even if 2 lakhs of cubic-ft can

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be utilised during next year our gross revenue in the Forest Department will go up by Rs. 4 to 5 lakhs and we shall be able to release probably some teak timber for the foreign market so that we may have a favourable balance of trade.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know whether any bridge with timber treated with ascu has been constructed anywhere else?

Mr. S. Kamesam: Although in India more than one or two treated timber bridges have not been built, they have been built on a very large scale in America, where 80 percent of the total bridge length of the railways consists of treated timber bridges.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know the number of years during which the bridges constructed with treated timber will last?

Mr. S. Kamesam: As far as the experience in America goes, treated timber bridges have lasted anywhere from 30 to 60 years. Recently the Committee appointed by the American Railway Board came to the conclusion.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know.

President: He has only six minutes and he has no time to answer questions.

Mr. S. Kamesam: Sir, with regard to the scepticism regarding ascu expressed by one of the Honorary Members I may say this. The attitude of the Forest Research Institute has been this. Ascu or any invention in wood preserving is such that no final opinion can be expressed probably for 20 years. As far as modern and recent scientific technique have been developing, the Forest Research Institute has made accelerated test not only with regard to Ascu but several other wood preservatives, and they have stated in the recent periodical quoted by one of the Honourable Members that although ascu treated wood has been submitted to more severe tests than several dozen other varities, there was not a single failure with Ascu, and that it gives the best results. I may also mention in this connection that the Mysore Government have treated over two lakhs of railway sleepers and a few thousand electrical poles with Ascu, the United Provinces Government have treated about 3 1/2 years ago 900 miles of high-tension line posts, and the Punjab Hydro Electric Department have also a few thousand ascu treated timber poles. The Madras Government are now putting up 2 plants and in their recent specifications they have definitely specified ascu for the treatment of electrical poles. I might add the ascu has been used in smaller or larger quantities in several foreign countries.

Mr. A. T. S. Kader Bhoy: May I know whether the timber used in America is available there or whether it is imported from other places?

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Mr. S. Kamesam: The timber mostly used in America is fine, a timber which is about 60 per cent as strong as some of our hard woods for which there is no market, and which we can get in very large quantities.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Were any bridges constructed with timber treated by Mr. Kamesam?

Mr. S. Kamesam: Yes, Sir, At the Lucknow exhibition I designed and put up a bridge of 50 ft. span, 16 ft. width of road way, constructed out of ascu treated timber. It was tried with a 12 1/2 ton roller and the road-way engineers were thoroughly satisfied with the soundness of the design and economy of the structure.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Sir, I do not propose to traverse the entire ground of the observations made by the Honourable members, but I would like to refer to one or two specific points. My friend, the Honourable Member Mr. Kesavan Nair, expressed his apprehension as to whether the Ceramic Factory was going to bring in any income at all in the next year. I may inform the Honourable Member and the House that negotiations are practically complete whereby Government are assured of an income of at least a lakh of rupees on account of the efforts of the Ceramic Expert.

Sir, apprehension was also expressed as to how far the Government would realise any profit from the Transport Scheme. I think that the Honourable Members are aware from the facts and figures already published in the papers and elsewhere that during the past seven months the Transport Scheme has been in operation in Travancore, the Government have realised a profit of nearly 15 per cent. Government have also absolutely no doubt in expecting a decent out-turn on their investments in commercial transport.

Mr. Ismail suggested that sufficient representation has not been given to the several communities in the Transport Department. Several questions have been asked and doubts expressed elsewhere also on this identical subject. Government have already ascertained that the Transport has been duly and properly constituted, representatives from various communities being recruited by the Transport Superintendent. Government have also issued instructions to the Transport Superintendent that, consistant with efficiency, representation should be given to the less represented communities in that branch of Government activity also.

Sir, I have to say a word about the observations made by my friend Mr. Chacko. Sir, he questioned the propriety and the wisdom of the Government characterising the activities of the State Congress as subversive and disloyal. Government have got ample information in their hands to justify that characterisation.

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Mr. K. M. Korah : May I know what those are?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: It is unnecessary and superfluous for me now to detail all the circumstances. But one or two instances I shall give for the information of the House.

Mr. R. V. Thomas : May I know why the details are unnecessary?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : I mean that within the limited time that I have I am not able to give all the details. But one or two circumstances which have induced Government and which in the public interest may be divulged I shall just refer to. The Honourable Member and the House will be aware that there has been a deliberate campaign of persistent disparagement of the credit of the country and that campaign has been carried on not only inside the State but outside the State as well. Probably it is not within the knowledge of most members that even a very futile attempt has been made to engineer a run on the Savings Banks Deposits.

Mr. N. V. Chacko : May I know from the member whether it was not the prohibitory order that was the cause of the State Congress Party going outside the State?

President: The Honourable Member is referring to a run on the Savings Bank deposits. There was no prohibitory order in regard to that.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : May I know what the State Congress party did in regard to the rush on Savings Bank deposits?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : I am referring to the results of the activities of the State Congress. There has been a persistent attempt in different parts of the country to have a run on the State's Savings Banks.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : I do not yield, Sir.

President : It is generally considered right and proper that members of Government answer all possible questions and ordinarily speaking, Government members will resume their seat when interruptions are made and questions are asked. But it must be remembered that the Honourable Member has got only four minutes and if Honourable Members want to put any questions they may do so after his speech is over.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : Sir, it is needless and superfluous for me to say that the Government of Travancore is not based on fragile or on insecure foundations. The Government finances are absolutely secure and such attempts can only be characterised as unfortunate. Apart from the disparagement on the

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credit of the country, both inside and outside the State, there has also been a consistent agitation to impute corruption and *mala fides* to the Head of the Administration. Sir, the Government certainly would welcome constructive and reasonable criticisms on their measures. But, to attribute corruption and *mala fides* to the Head of the Administration is certainly subversive and disloyal. I may even say that there were certain publications and utterances by some members of the organisation to an extent that even the most exalted in the land have not escaped their slanderous tongues. Sir, the President read one of the very sentences which was uttered by one of the prominent members of that organisation and that sentence I shall read again with your permission.

> "I visualise that if Government do not retrace their steps, we will let loose a non-violent civil war in Travancore within the course of two months."

What else could I characterise as more subversive and more disloyal than this utterance? After all, have the conditions and circumstances in Travancore come to this stage, that there should be a civil war, that there should be a threat of civil war?

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: Are we allowed to put questions to him now?

President: No, only in the end, because the Member does not yield his place.

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Sir, such statements and threats have emanated not from mere individuals but from members of the State Congress Organisation. They are not personal or individual utterances, pure and simple. But they are the results of deliberations and consultations in secret conclaves and conferences. The Government have ample proof that these secret conclaves and conferences were held by this particular organisation. It was in view of these circumstances that the Government and the Dewan on a particular occasion referred to the disloyal and subversive activities of not only this particular organisation, but of particular members of that organisation.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know how the finances of the State are affected as a result of the activities of the organisation?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: By their deliberate campaign to discredit the financial solvency of the State, inside and outside, which was quite unwarranted and unjustified.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair. But, was there not a run on several banks in the country?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: I am surprised that the Government should be compared with those mushroom banks and attempts made to discredit the solvency and soundness of it.

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Mr. R. V. Thomas . Are those banks to be called mushroom banks?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai : All banks which have collapsed as a result of fraud and inefficiency can only be considered as mushroom growths.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair : Sir, the member has not answered my question.

President : He is not bound to answer all the questions.

Mr. K. J. Cheriyan : Sir, I am glad to state that the budget has been received well by this House also. I may however say a few words in reply to the criticisms made by the Honourable members. It was pointed out by some of the honourable members that there is very little in the budget to show that the needs of the ryots are attended to adequately by Government. I may observe that for the next year a sum of Rs. 40,000 has been provided for ameliorative measures for the depressed classes, Rs. 3,000 for rural reconstruction, Rs. 6,000 for Village Panchayats and Rs. 3·23 lakhs for Protective Irrigation Works besides ample provision made under Medical, Sanitation and Public Health Departments and Co-operative Department. It was also pointed out that only Rs. 7,000 has been provided for the Shertalai taluk and other areas for water supply. I may say that this amount is only for expenditure in connection with the investigation of water supply scheme and that it does not represent the outlay on the scheme.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla : Has the scheme been settled finally?

Mr. K. J. Cheriyan : Not yet, Sir.

Another honourable member referred to the closing Government balance and pointed out that the amount has dwindled down to Rs. 16·03 lakhs. I may observe that one reason why this balance has gone down to this figure is the creation of two Reserve Funds, *viz* the General Reserve Fund and the Revenue Reserve Fund which together amount to Rs. 72 and odd lakhs. The Government account balance at the beginnning of 1106 was Rs. 165 odd lakhs and since then, capital expenditure on non-productive works to the extent of Rs. 151 and odd lakhs has been incurred. If this capital expenditure, which is mainly on development works and schemes of lasting public utility, had not been incurred, the Government account would have been Rs. 166 and odd lakhs. The items such as the Railways the Water Works, Drainage etc., are all items of public utility and are met out of accumulated surpluses. During the current year a portion of the surplus balances was invested in short term deposits and consequently, the balance was reduced to Rs. 52·16 lakhs. As a result of the programme of capital expenditure during the next

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year, both productive and non-productive, to the extent of Rs. 88 and odd lakhs, the cash balance is expected to be reduced to Rs. 40·97 lakhs.

A reference to the 'Assets and Liabilities' statement at the close of 1114 given at pages 13 and 14 of the Preliminary edition of the Budget Estimate would show that our total assets amount to Rs. 537·12 lakhs as against a liability of Rs. 452 and odd lakhs only. Our actual debt on account of loans amount to Rs. 144·11 lakhs including special loans.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: How much are the liquid assets?

Mr. K. J. Cheriyan: More than Rs. 265 lakhs, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: How was that figure arrived at? May I know whether that includes the amount for buildings also?

Mr. K. J. Cheriyan: No, Sir.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesava Nair: Then, what are the items which constitute that asset?

Mr. K. J. Cheriyan: It consists of the cash balance of Rs. 40 and odd lakhs and the investments in Government securities. The five per cent. loan of Rs. 14·75 lakhs raised in 1091 has already been fully secured by investment in Government of India Securities. So our actual debt position will be Rs. 129·36 lakhs only. Against this debt we have investments on reproductive works to the extent of Rs. 222·24 lakhs including Rs. 37·86 lakhs advanced to the Cochin Harbour uthorities towards the 4th stage works. Our investments in gilt-edged securities etc, amount to Rs. 225 and odd lakhs including the sinking fund investments of Rs. 14·75 lakhs, and our investments on Reproductive works alone exceed the actual debt by Rs. 92·88 lakhs.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kavan Nair: May I know whether the figure Rs. 115 and odd lakhs was arrived at after reducing Rs. 25 lakhs?

Mr. K. J. Cheriyan: I will come to that, Sir.

As our investments on Reproductive works alone exceed the actual debt by Rs. 92 and odd lakhs, there need be no anxiety whatever about our financial position which now stands on an unassailable basis.

Mr. Nedumangad R. Kesavan Nair: May I know what is the special loan of Rs. 78 and odd lakhs made up of?

Mr. K. J. Cheriyan: It consists of Palace loans and other loans, Sir.

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President: Under the Rules, it is my right as it is my privilege to make a few remarks at the end of the general budget discussion; and I propose to do so solely confining myself to certain aspects of the budgetary position of the State. It is true, as the Secretary Mr. Govinda Pillai stated, that there has been a deliberate and persistent attempt made within the State, and even more thoroughly without the State to make it appear that the State is in a practically insolvent condition, that its finances are being mismanaged and that it is almost 'bankrupt'. That word was in fact used on some occasions. It is therefore necessary for me to point out certain facts and to make an appeal. If honourable members really and honestly believe that the finances of the State are in a perilous condition, that we are heading towards bankruptcy and that the finances are mismanaged, by all means, let the exposure come. Let the facts be stated and re-stated and reiterated. But, for political exigencies, for indirect ends, to say that, not only inside the State but outside, the financial condition is critical, that if there is a run on Anchal Office Savings Banks, there is not enough money to repay, the moneys due that it is hardly necessary to say-is not good from the point of view of the people of the State, from the point of view of the prosperity of the State, from the points of view of the prestige of the state, from any point of view not even of self-interest. But yet, that has been stated and re-stated.

Let me put another aspect of this matter. Is it not the duty of the people of the State to resort only to constructive criticism on financial and other matters, and put useful suggestions before the House and try to evolve a better financial scheme, a better budgetary ideal? Instead of that, to raise these bogies, to make statements which are demonstrably inaccurate, merely for the purpose of creatting a panic, is, I submit not doing the right thing, by the State.

Now, I pass from that topic. There was undoubtedly—the Secretary was right in saying this—an attempt engineered in certain selected places to create a run on Anchal Savings Banks. The run took place. An amount to the tune of Rs. 2¾ lakhs was withdrawn within four or five days from Anchal Savings Banks. I am glad to say that more than that money has come back and money is now coming back to such an extent that Government are considering whether it may not be necessary to prevent a further investment of large sums in Anchal Offices. But there is no doubt that a deliberate attempt was made in that direction and I think it is the duty of Government to put an end to those attempts. I know the localities—I will not mention them—but they are significant.

So far as the general financial policy of the Government is concerned, it is this and it has been so stated. Government's policy is not to hoard money on non-interest bearing or nominally

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[President.]

interest-bearing securities. Let us consider what the interest that was derived by this Government from their cash balance was till three or four years ago. The Imperial Bank, on deposit, paid one per cent interest. It was at one per cent interest or no interest that Rs. 15) or Rs. 200 lakhs had been invested. The policy of this Government is not to continue in that policy but to invest the money in interest-bearing resources. Therefore you will find that today, although what is called the cash reserve is Rs. 40 or 45 lakhs, considerable sums are put out at one and three quarter per cent, two per cent and two and a quarter per cent interest and so forth. That accounts for Rs. 25 lakhs. Over and above these sums as has been pointed out by the Financial Secretary, a great deal has been spent by Government on productive schemes. As a matter of fact, no civilized Government in the world nowadays keeps money in its treasuries. The general accepted policy is that the Government must budget only just for the bare minimum of its expenditure and must not save money but must borrow for reproductive expenditure so that with the borrowed money they may embark upon new schemes. It is in that spirit that the Mysore Government has embarked upon its hydro electric scheme, which at its inception was considered to be a doubtful concern from the financial point of view, but which now helps materially to swell the resources of Mysore and which pays seven to eight per cent yield. Pykara scheme in Madras was pronounced a costly fiasco. The Honourable Sir M. Krishnan Nair when he was a non-official criticised me and he ran the department after me. He had stated that the scheme would fail but he learnt of the possibilities after he succeeded me and that department is now bringing a revenue of seven per cent. So far as this State is concerned, the Pallivasal Hydro Electric Scheme, I repeat, will become a *faitaccompli* in the course of 1939; and already contracts have been entered into for the supply of the power. Within the first year we hope to make a fairly good revenue; and during the second year we hope to pay six to seven per cent.

So far as the Ceramic factory is concerned, in spite of the doubts that have been raised, it is certain that the market is ready not only for the entire present output but for something more at a price which we can suggest, and a large profit is ensured on that account.

So far as transport is concerned, Government have entered into a contract for the transport of a large amount of tea which now goes through Tuticorin to be taken to Alwaye and thence to Cochin. Alwaye will become a great entrepot for commerce. It will be a centre wherefrom provisions will go in our own transport vehicles back to the various tea estates. This scheme is expected to yield

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by itself next year a net revenue of Rs. two lakhs. I am therefore saying that the policy of the Government is not to allow its money to lie idle in its chests and treasuries but to put in beneficial channels so that plenty might come. It is in the way of practical industrialisation bringing in its train various other enterprises that the essential agricultural situation can be modified so as to make this country not only entirely agricultural but partly agricultural and partly industrial. In all these schemes co-operation and help is essential. Criticism leads us no where, pessimistic forebodings take us no where. Conjoint effort will lead us to prosperity.

Mention was made of the Rubber Factory. Government was wrong in running it on commercial lines and as a Government Department and it has been stated definitely by the Government that it will not do so hereafter. By the present arrangement, it is run by a private company. If it is not well-conducted, Government have to recover their dues. We are no longer interested in the working of the Rubber Factory. It is a private concern. Whether it closes its doors or continues its work is not the primary concern of the Government except from the general point of view. If it is not well run, it means that the men in charge of the concern are not business-like. If the Rubber Factory closes its business, Government will exercise its powers under the agreement by taking back the factory and giving it to some other agency which can run it well.

So far the Sugar Factory is concerned, the previous failure was due to Government running the industry as a Government Department. Now it has gone to sound hands and within the first year of its working it is going to yield a dividend. This has been the policy of Government. In matters which are natural monopolies,—timber resources, mineral resources, electrical resources and things of that kind, Government has to rum them as nationalised enterprises. That is the only way in which natural monopolies, bounties of nature, can be administered. In regard to industrial and commercial enterprises, Government departments cannot function adequately. They cannot pay commissions and cannot spend large sums on advertisements and pushing their wares. Many expedients are necessary for commercial success and therefore, Government departments are unfitted to run commercial items. That question was considered not only by this Government, but many other Government has been faced with the consideration of similar problems. Whenever any Government has tried to run a commercial concern as a profit making concern and as a Government department then success was not sure. A distinction has to be drawn between purely

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[President.]

profit making concerns like rubber, soap and other things and the administration of monopolies. The only case on the border line is that of transport. With regard to that, opinions in the world have changed. At one time it was held that in the case of railways and motor transport, private concerns could run then without reference to the state. England and especially America today furnish conspicuous examples of railways being run by Joint Stock Companies. It was gradually found that these transport organisations, railway organisations and motor organisations led to exaggerated profit making on the part of a few to the detriment of public safety and convenience and of the public exchequer. Therefore world opinion has largely changed and today transport is considered in common with electricity and water as one of the natural monopolies and it is the duty and right of the State to handle and administer it. These are the ideals with which the state is working out its schemes. In the pursuit of these ideals, it is the ardent desire of Government that all sections of the community should work together not in a spirit of carping and frivolous, partisanship, but in a spirit of comradeship, union and good will.

The House will now rise and meet again tomorrow at 11, o' clock.

A. GUNAMONY,
Secretary to the Sri Chitra State Council.

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